

Canagrex

Mr. Whelan: Having heard you once, Gordon, I have heard you always.

Mr. Taylor: The habit of this Government is to have only one or two Ministers here. They do not want to hear what the Members say. What this Minister is trying to do is to build up a little nestegg for himself. He is getting near retirement age. He wants a resting place that pays \$100,000 a year. He wants to be the president of Canagrex.

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, maybe the Hon. Member would like to tell us what his nestegg is, with his provincial pension and his federal pay.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): Order.

Mr. Taylor: I earned mine. I did not accept a job that pays \$100,000. What is more, I even paid some of the money back to the Crown. Do you?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): Order.

Mr. Taylor: It is all right for you to get up and start talking about pensions.

Mr. Simmons: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I thought the Minister was rising to make this point of order. Since he has not done it, I will. Immediately before the Hon. Member rose, the Hon. Member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor) imputed motives to the Minister of Agriculture. That is not permissible. Under the rules of this House it is not permissible to impute motives to another Member of the Chamber. He must withdraw that attempt to impute motives. I suggest that the Chair invite the Hon. Member to do that or else fling him out of the House where he belongs.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): Order.

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Speaker, if the Member thinks I was way out, he should look at the record of one of his own Liberal Members when we came into power. How much did he get paid to leave his job at Air Canada? How much public money did he get paid, money he should never have got at all? Another thing, the directors of this—

Mr. Simmons: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I, as one Member of this Chamber, am not going to sit here and watch this smear job on the Minister of Agriculture who is doing his duty as the Minister responsible for introducing this Bill. What he does when he leaves this Chamber is his own sweet business. However, under our rules and our well established tradition no Member can rise in this Chamber and impute motives to another Member of this Chamber, Minister or not. That is what the Hon. Member for Bow River has done. That is low, even for him. I invite him to withdraw. I suggest to the Chair that he be made to withdraw. He cannot stand here and impute motives to another Member of this Chamber. With his long experience in the Alberta House and here, he should know that. I believe he knows better. I invite him to have the decency to stand and withdraw what he said.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): Order. The Hon. Member for Burin-St. George's (Mr. Simmons) claims privilege.

The Chair is of the opinion that that is hardly privilege. The Chair does not see in what way the remarks of the Hon. Member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor) hamper the Hon. Member for Burin-St. George's in the exercise of his mandate as a Member of Parliament. In any case, the Minister of Agriculture is in the Chamber. The Chair has not seen the Minister rise and protest. The Chair must therefore conclude that the Minister of Agriculture does not in any way feel slighted. However, in the opinion of the Chair I thought we were doing rather well on Canagrex and the amendments up to that point in the debate. I invite the Hon. Member for Bow River to continue along that line.

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Speaker, this Bill provides for a president and one or two vice-presidents. I am suggesting it may well be that the Minister may become the president. What is derogatory about that? That is what the Liberals do all the time, putting their own Members as head of things. Has it suddenly become wrong? I would not be a bit surprised if the directors were Mackasey, Buchanan, and who is the other fellow? Gillespie. I would not be surprised if they were made directors. The people of Canada would not be surprised. That is the kind of thing they do all the time. The Members' conscience is hurting him. I want to get on with Canagrex.

The farmers of Canada, including those in my constituency, do not like this Bill the way it is. If these amendments are accepted, it can become an exporting agency. Without these amendments, the corporation will have the power to take over farms and the food industry, becoming the master. The Government has done this in energy, it has done this in culture. Now it wants to do it in the food industry. What is the Government trying to do, make the people of Canada bond slaves? What kind of society is the Government trying to build? If it does not want to do this, why is it laying the ground work for some Government of the future to do it? That is what Canagrex is doing. The powers are there and no one in the Government can deny them. Read the Bill. Let the people read the Bill. Farmers have read it. That is why they are writing letters to me that say: "Whatever you do, stop Canagrex. We in the country cannot live under Canagrex."

• (1640)

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. You, Mr. Speaker, commented that I was present in the House but perhaps did not raise a point of order or a point of privilege when the Hon. Member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor) spoke about my intentions of becoming head of Canagrex and creating this body only for myself. Nothing is further from the truth than that. I have no desire to be the head of Canagrex although I know that I am fully capable of being the head of Canagrex. I know there are other people who are just as capable as I am. Publications in Alberta have said that the motive behind Canagrex is that I want a job for myself. That is not a fact. That is an untruth.