

*Time Allocation*

had some agreement on that basis. We were prepared to give the Government enough money to carry through to November. The Government said it needed enough money to carry through for the full calendar year. That is why the amendment of the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans) is before the House.

● (1520)

We were talking about enough money to carry the Government until, say, the first of 1985. But, all of a sudden, negotiations are cut off. No effort is made to trust the House of Commons. No effort is made to come to grips with the deficit, which may be \$35.5 billion or may be \$42 billion. Who knows where we are going, because there is no control on spending.

**Mr. Riis:** No accountability.

**Mr. Blenkarn:** Over this past month we have seen interest rates rise. The Government is prepared to pay 13.6 per cent for 20-year money on its bond issue of April 1, and 12.5 per cent for one-year money.

There is something wrong going on and we as Members of Parliament do not have the right to give a blank cheque. We cannot do that, particularly in view of the fact that this Government will cease to exist come the middle of June. Therefore, it is with sadness that I rise to say that we should not now be talking closure, we should be settling this Bill and getting organized to handle the deficit problem in order to come to grips with economic reality, interest rates and unemployment, the real problems affecting Canadians.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, we should give the Government enough borrowing authority to carry on for perhaps the balance of this year. Then a new Government, whether it be Liberal or Progressive Conservative, will be able to present a new program which gets this country on the road again. But this Government refuses to listen. It refuses to face reality.

If you look at today's Order Paper, Mr. Speaker, you will see that not only does the Government demand \$29.55 billion, but there is notice of a supplementary borrowing authority Bill as well.

**Mr. Kristiansen:** They never get enough.

**Mr. Blenkarn:** Not only does it want \$29.55 billion, and it wants it through closure, but it wants more in a supplementary Bill. Where is the limit to the Government's appetite?

**Mr. MacLaren:** There is none.

**Mr. Blenkarn:** The Minister yells across, "There is none". There is no limit to the Government's appetite, to its abuse of Parliament or to the prerogative of the Crown. The Government stamps on the right to object and the right to free speech. It stamps on the rights and privileges of my children and your children. We cannot go on in this fashion. The same thing will happen here as has happened in other countries in the past. Borrowing will get to the point where we cannot pay the

interest, as is the case in Argentina, Brazil and Mexico. Then what will happen to the value of our currency as the Government prints and prints and prints money, as it defrauds pensioners, savers and retired people of their savings by counterfeiting and destroying the value of our currency?

Sir, we in this House must be responsible and demand accountability from this Government. We cannot go on any longer with a program of borrowing and borrowing and borrowing, deficit on deficit on deficit, *ad infinitum*. That is a funny word, is it not? Is that not the word of a certain company with an annual meeting tomorrow? Another loser! Sir, this country has had enough of losers. Let us get on and do something with winners. I say to you that this motion should not pass, this Government should be forced to the negotiating table, and we as parliamentarians must cut back on the deficit and the borrowing powers of this Government.

**Mr. David Berger (Laurier):** Mr. Speaker, I am somewhat astounded at how the Hon. Member for Mississauga South (Mr. Blenkarn) can stand up and talk about how the Government must be responsible and at the same time make such an irresponsible speech. He referred to Argentina and Brazil. He talked about how the Government could not continue to borrow until the day we could no longer pay interest. He somehow tried to compare the situation in Canada with that of Brazil. The fact is that he knows that is not true. He knows our situation is vastly different, because we are not borrowing from foreigners; we are borrowing money from Canadian citizens. The interest payments go to Canadian citizens and they stay in our economy. That is the fundamental difference which he chooses to ignore.

He also referred to the Budget of February 15. He said that on the day after the Liberal leadership convention that Budget will be gone by the board, it will be "dead" to use his words. Of course, he ignores the fact this Budget is built upon the Budget of April, 1983. He ignores the fact that the economy continues on a day-to-day basis, that people continue to spend money. He ignores the fact that this Government has incorporated in a series of budgets a number of progressive measures and investments which are going to benefit Canadians for years and years to come. He forgets programs such as that of the Canadian Industrial Renewal Board, the Industry and Labour Adjustment Program, and the special recovery projects which were introduced in the Budget of last April. These policies are designed—

**Mr. Hawkes:** To re-elect Liberals.

**Mr. Berger:** —to invest in Canadian infrastructure and industries of the future, in order to ensure the prosperity of Canadians for years to come. I suggest to the Hon. Member for Mississauga South that our economy, thanks to efforts made by successive Liberal Governments, is adapting to international competition much better than the American economy, which he holds up as such a great example.

Our country, Mr. Speaker, as you are probably aware, has known for the last couple of years a series of record trade