

**Mr. Nielsen:** Then, by his interjections, and I do not see him in the House, the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) who interjects in such a way that we can all hear when he chooses, left no doubt in my mind that he was against the sale.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Nielsen:** Of course, my colleague and cohort and helper, the hon. member for Fraser Valley West (Mr. Rose) on two separate occasions in committee seconded motions which I put forward. One was passed and defeated vote 16b; the other called for the government to produce the financial information that we should have had in committee and the hon. member left no doubt in my mind or in the mind of any member in the committee that he was opposed to the sale of Polymer to CDC.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Nielsen:** I have before me Bill C-204 and a paper entitled "Toward a Responsive Development Corporation", the hon. member for Waterloo (Mr. Saltsman) being the draftsman of both of them. No doubt this paper figured largely in the contribution of members of the New Democratic Party in the debates of 1971. This leaves no doubt in my mind that the hon. member's party does not want Polymer sold to the CDC. Where are we left? We are with you, we are with you 100 per cent in opposing this kind of sale.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Nielsen:** I hear that a little conversation took place between the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) and someone else while going up in the elevator last Friday after the subject matter of our resolution was known. It is reported in the press that the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre said "When we defeat the government it will be on our own motion". Now, this is the motion of that party.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Nielsen:** This is precisely what they want. To anticipate, they may say "We are not going to vote with those nasty Conservatives on this motion because all they are doing is lusting for power".

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Nielsen:** I am sure they are going to say, Mr. Speaker, that if they vote with those nasty Tories on this motion it means that the old age pensioners will not get their pensions because that measure is to come before us tomorrow.

**Some hon. Members:** Right.

**Mr. Nielsen:** They will say "The veterans' allowances will not be increased if we defeat the government now".

**Some hon. Members:** Right.

**Mr. Nielsen:** That is absolute tripe, Sir, because all they are doing is using the old age pensioners and war veterans as political pawns in a game.

### *Sale of Polymer*

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Paproski:** Shame!

**Mr. Nielsen:** They know, as well as all other members in this House, that governments in our system have a habit of succeeding each other and that these measures will be cared for in due course.

I see that my time is rapidly expiring, Mr. Speaker, and it would not be proper for me to conclude my remarks in the 30 minutes available to me without some reference to the participation by the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis), the Leader of the New Democratic Party, in the debate last Friday. I know that he is a man of principle; I know that he is a man who has vigorously, aggressively and consistently upheld the philosophy of the New Democratic Party which was so well articulated in the debates of 1971 when the Canada Development Corporation was first being discussed in this House. I would be remiss if I did not support him in the remarks which he made last Friday.

I had been listening very carefully and that is why I interjected, as reported at page 2541 of *Hansard*, and asked whether he was really condemning the sale of Polymer to the Canada Development Corporation. Imagine my surprise, not that he condemned it once but that he condemned it three times. In reply to my question whether he condemned that sale he said:

Yes, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member understands correctly. I condemn that sale—I condemn that sale with all the vigour I have. There was no excuse for it and there is no logic in CDC doing that. There is no good economic reason and I condemn it, Mr. Speaker.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Nielsen:** I was very glad to get that reply from the Leader of the New Democratic Party, but when I read the press reports on Friday and Saturday it appeared from the blues that were quoted in the press that the Leader of the New Democratic Party had said in the House "I condemn that sale with all the honour that I have". Well, Mr. Speaker, honour may somehow have disappeared over the weekend, but I do not quarrel with the word used because vigour and honour are synonymous as far as I am concerned in that there was no doubt in his mind that he condemned the sale.

Many of us believe, and I think many people across the country believe, that this is a time of reckoning for the Leader of the New Democratic Party and his followers, to determine whether principle means anything—

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Nielsen:** —to determine whether they mean what they say when they stand up in the House and make assertions like the one the Leader of the New Democratic Party made last Friday. I believe that he did mean it, and I believe that all members of his party meant what they said in the debate in 1971 and last Friday.

All they have to do in order to prove to the people of Canada that they really did mean it, and that they really are men of principle, is to stand up and be counted when this matter comes to a vote.