

*Government Orders*

member, I think, was very clear in his explanation of how the government did that.

We in the opposition very much appreciate support from the third party in this House. We know that his party has been very good in assisting us in our opposition to this particular legislation. I know the hon. member for Kamloops shares my views. The thing that made we wonder when listening to the hon. member's speech—and as I say he spoke very well—is whether the voters in Saskatchewan do not read “Liberal” when they see “NDP” on the ballots, because everything he said we in this party have agreed with and indeed suggested in this House on a regular basis. I commend him for his comments.

Having said that, I would like to pose a question to the hon. member. I see the hon. member for Maclead on the other side. He must be very nervous about seeing this kind of legislation go through because his friends and neighbours would not approve of this bill.

Two-thirds of the money formerly spent under this bill, according to the minister's figures, were spent in western Canada. Those moneys, I am sure, were going into the riding of Maclead and indeed throughout the province of Alberta in a big way. Here they are being taken away by members of this government through this attitude that is in my view improper. They have an obligation to pay this money out under the existing legislation. They cannot assume, as they are doing, that this bill is going to pass this House. Indeed, if the members from Alberta and the hon. member for Winnipeg South would get on their hind legs and oppose this legislation, as their friends, neighbours and constituents I am sure would wish them to do, and vote against this bill it would not pass this House. Then we would not get this dreadful legislation in Canada and the government would have to dole out the money under the existing legislation as it is required by law to do.

I must say I was pretty astounded when I saw them applauding this legislation as the Minister of Agriculture made a speech introducing it the other day. One can only wonder whether or not they are accurately representing the views of their constituents, whether they are doing the job that the hon. member for Prince Albert—Chur-

chill River is doing in representing his constituents' views today.

Does the hon. member not agree with me that the other members of Parliament from Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan in particular are going to have their constituents' rights destroyed if we pass this legislation? Is this legislation not going to take out of their hands two-thirds of \$27 million or about \$18 million as I calculate it? Is this legislation not going to take that \$18 million right out of their pockets and thereby deprive them of the sustenance and the livelihood to which they might have otherwise been entitled? Does he not think that is an outrage?

**Mr. Funk:** Mr. Speaker, I very much appreciate that question from the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands. In fact it takes a bit of the pain away from the fact that he defeated a very talented and excellent candidate for the New Democratic Party in his constituency, Major Len Johnson, who in fact was born and raised in my constituency in the Prince Albert area.

Because he is from central Canada and perhaps has not had the exposure to the politics of the west, I would like to tell him that the reason that people in the west in fact support the NDP rather than the Liberal party in many cases is that they are very progressive people and they have found through experience, especially in Saskatchewan, that they do not have to recycle these progressive ideas through the Liberal party in order to get them implemented. In the west we have demonstrated that the NDP does a much better job of implementing them.

**An Hon. Member:** But you don't get in.

**Mr. Funk:** Well we certainly have there. We certainly formed some successful governments in western Canada and I think people there appreciate that. Hopefully that is something that we can extend from coast to coast. I suspect a fair number of the members now sitting as Liberals would in fact applaud that and might well want, at some point or other, to consider joining us in that effort.

The question, however, was a good one because it had to do with the pressure that the government members opposite I know are getting from their constituents. Those constituents are very angry. They know exactly what is happening to them and they expressed it very