

Supply

Mr. Kelly: Hypocrites!

Mr. Waddell: Bring in a good bill and we will put it through!

Mr. Cosgrove: Surely this is an important subject. Surely a day has not gone by when we have not been criticized by the opposition, which states that we are doing nothing and requests action!

Mr. Deans: And no wonder! You are a disaster, an absolute disaster!

Mr. Cosgrove: I say to the official opposition, particularly to the members of the New Democratic Party—

Mr. Deans: Will you guarantee to build 70,000 new units this year?

Mr. Cosgrove: —that if affordable housing and jobs are important, where is your support for such a program? I ask—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order. I would ask the co-operation of all members to listen to the hon. Minister of Public Works.

Mr. Deans: He is not saying anything!

Mr. Crosby: Let him talk sense!

Mr. Pinard: Three days!

Mr. Deans: We will give it to you in five minutes if you will guarantee to build 70,000 units.

Mr. Cosgrove: I will take that offer. The Leader of the Government would put the legislation before the House, and if the House would pass it, we would pass it in five minutes!

Mr. Deans: Okay, 70,000 housing units, then.

Mr. Cosgrove: We should not be debating a bill which is more concerned with the job opportunity of the official leader of the opposition.

Mr. Deans: He is not the "official leader".

Mr. Cosgrove: We should not be dealing with a bill which is more concerned with saving one job in the country than with creating 70,000 jobs.

Mr. Deans: Seventy thousand housing units, 150,000 jobs.

Mr. Althouse: There is a difference.

Mr. Cosgrove: I do have the request of the industry. I do have the support of the industry. At Winnipeg on Sunday, I had the support—

Mr. Deans: Nobody that I heard of; they fell asleep when you were speaking.

Mr. Cosgrove: —of the Housing and Urban Development Association of Canada. I have the support of the Urban Development Institute, the UDI. We have the support of the people who are charged with the responsibility of delivering and who have delivered housing in great numbers to a wide variety of Canadians in this country in a successful manner.

I wonder, is Mr. McDermid here today to urge us—

Mr. Deans: To listen to you?

Mr. Cosgrove: —to provide the funding and to pass the legislation to give 70,000 jobs to people who want—

Mr. Deans: One hundred and fifty thousand jobs.

Mr. Cosgrove: —employment in that area? Is he here? Do you have his support? Is he supporting the government?

Mr. Deans: He is watching you on television and laughing.

Mr. Cosgrove: I wonder, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Kelly: He is afraid to come.

Mr. Deans: He is watching you on TV and laughing at you. When you spoke at the housing institute, they fell asleep.

● (1500)

Mr. Cosgrove: The new critic for housing for the New Democratic Party has had that responsibility for approximately a couple of weeks. I invite him in all seriousness to take the budget document I referred to, look at the money provided, look at the unit cost, divide the unit cost into money afforded and look at the number of jobs that could be created.

Mr. Deans: It is a pittance compared to the need.

Mr. Cosgrove: You call 70,000 jobs a pittance? Well, the case rests there. Canadians have their answer; 70,000 jobs is not enough.

Mr. Deans: It is not nearly enough.

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, would the House leader of the New Democratic Party let the minister speak?

Mr. Deans: Why? Give me one good reason.

Mr. Cullen: The minister is doing well.

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): No, he is not. I want to hear him.

Mr. Cosgrove: I am disappointed today—

Mr. Deans: So are we.

Mr. Cosgrove: —that this day is taken for debate of a motion which it will become obvious to the public is designed in an attempt to play small politics, which I refer to as parliamentary parlour tricks, with the government. I am