The Economy

his own private affairs. Certainly anyone is compelled by law to pay his debts sooner or later, even if that takes years, and if he does not, sooner or later he is deprived of whatever he has by the law.

But the government of the land goes on piling up debts, and the result is that this year Canadian taxpayers will be paying an excess of \$6 billion in interest costs. Of course, no one on the government side, including the speaker who had the floor when I came in, is considering ways of repaying some of the principal. All they can do is try and pay the interest. At times they have to get deeper into debt just to pay the interest. And it was not so long ago that we discussed the transfer of the CN debt. In the final analysis, the Canadian government increases its indebtedness in order to absorb another debt. The same thing happened with the St. Lawrence Seaway. The same thing goes on and on, and this is unacceptable. Sooner or later, citizens with a sense of duty and responsibility will have to try seriously and honestly to find a way out, because this cannot go on forever. We hear of various projects, and I know that most hon, members here in this House, and especially on the government side, would be quite happy to accept many of the worth-while projects prepared and submitted by students, by the people involved in Canada Works programs. But the answer we get from departmental officials and the minister himself is that they do not have enough funds to accept any large number of projects. They themselves publicize this to encourage young people, students, to submit projects.

In my constituency of Kamouraska, projects were submitted for a total of nearly \$1 million, while available funds amounted to \$192,000. Clearly, those responsible for selecting projects had a difficult task, that of trying to deal with projects totalling \$1 million when they only had \$192,000. The same thing occurs every year when the program is reactivated. I am not criticizing the program in itself because it is a good program. We were given a chance to see that there is quite a lot of ingenuity among young people and the not-so-young, among those who are interested in the Canada Works program. I was myself involved with the officials of the government in the selection process, and I know, having seen many of those projects, that there were some good ideas, that there were for instance, young people who spent several evenings, and worked very late in the night, drafting projects which seemed acceptable to them. Unfortunately, only 26 out of more than 60 projects were accepted. After first instilling some hope, this program becomes a source of frustration for many students who are now without jobs for the summer season. They will have to travel from one area to another, in the province and in the country, without finding suitable enployment. All that, because ours is a financial system which lessens the possibility of accepting good ideas.

We, from the Social Credit party, maintain the monetary system which can and should be improved, especially as we know this is what is wrong. Almost every day we see headlines in newspapers stating that such and such item could not be accepted, for want of money; such project, such organization, they will have to fire workers, because they have not enough money. Therefore, we suggest methods to improve that monetary mechanism which operates backward.

I will not say, and we Créditistes never suggested that, that a Social Credit government will solve all issues overnight, that Social Credit is a cure-all for all human ills, that is not what we say. How many times have I heard politicians of different stripes mention the "Caouette's buck", for instance. I beg your pardon if I mentioned the name of our chief that we loved so much, who did so much for Canada to arouse public opinion to this issue. But anyway those people will say: this one or that one's buck, or the buck machine or the Bank of Canada. Yes, indeed, the Bank of Canada. Why have they created the Bank of Canada? Was it only to change little nickels, to make bigger metal pieces of different value, resulting in confusion between nickels and quarters? Is that the responsibility of the Bank of Canada? The Bank of Canada has been created by a past prime minister who once stated very clearly: As long as a nation does not control money, it is useless to speak of a responsible government.

Why is it then, that we can read many statements made by distinguished people? Presidents of the United States of America. By the way, I could name Abraham Lincoln assassinated in a theatre at ten o'clock in the morning, who was one of those who wanted to improve the monetary system which resulted in so many difficulties. Also, a statesman, a military leader, Napoleon who said that on many occasions he wanted to do something, but was prevented by the monetary system from reaching his goal.

Everywhere we see people ready to sell their conscience in order to get money, people with power holding on to power in any form and who do not dare criticize a financial system which is crushing people. The federal government prefers to keep fighting with provincial governments, in order to decide who will be allowed to tax people more in never ending bickerings.

I remember in 1941, at a federal-provincial conference when the premier from Alberta who was then the Hon. William Lyon Aberhart expounded his theory on Social Credit to the provincial premiers. He mentioned: "We are here in order to try to find ways and means to provide all Canadians with happy living conditions and a formula which would enable everyone to use goods in plenty." But the issue was laid to rest and discussions went on on who could take the most out of the taxpayer's pockets.

This bickering has been carrying on for a month, following the budget speech of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Chrétien), which was given here and, of the Quebec minister of finance, a few days later; one sees immediately the same response and it is now threatening what a few people like to call Canadian unity, simply for a question of dollars. Why should this be? I