

The Budget—Mr. Nystrom

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton—Melville): Mr. Speaker, I shall break a bit of precedent and move our subamendment to the Liberal amendment and then you can take a look at it.

I move, seconded by the Hon. Member from Prince Albert—Churchill River (Mr. Funk):

That the amendment be amended by adding the following words:

“and that this House further condemns the Government

(1) for imposing the greatest new tax burden on Canadian families in recent times;

(2) for reneging on its commitments to develop regional equality;

(3) for continuing and increasing the unfairness of the tax system;

(4) for eroding the universality of vital social programs”.

An Hon. Member: He is not in his right seat.

Mr. Nystrom: The Hon. Member from Prince Albert—Churchill River will be in his seat long before I finish my speech and then he will officially second my amendment.

We have before us today a very interesting Budget, a Budget that was brought in by the media in the greatest tax leak that we have ever seen in the history of this country. I suggest that this Budget will be known historically for its substantive parts or details rather than for the way it was released.

I suggest it will be known for two things. First, it will be known for what I call the big tax attack of the Conservative Party, the Tory tax attack. I have never in my life seen as big a tax grab by any Government on the ordinary people of Canada. Perhaps it is no wonder when we look across the way at these empty benches. It is millionaire's row. Millionaire after millionaire sit in the front benches of the Conservative Government, and that is why we have the biggest tax attack in the history of this country on ordinary Canadians.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nystrom: There will be \$8 billion in personal taxes by 1990. It is tax, tax, tax. The old saying that my grandfather told me many years ago is that Tory times were tough times.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Nystrom: Those were the days when the Member from Assiniboia, the great red Tory, was a sympathizer of the CCF and Tommy Douglas. He knows of what I speak.

This is a major attack on ordinary people. It is a pick-pocket type of Budget in attacking ordinary people.

Second, this Budget will go down as stage two of the real Conservative agenda, the Conservative Party and big business alliance in this country. Stage one is the Free Trade Agreement and stage two is to change this country fundamentally into one where corporations and the market dominates, where the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. The word deficit is nothing more than a code word to cut back on social programs, to end universality. It is nothing more than a code word to reduce the role of government on our society. It is nothing more than a code word to reduce the taxes on corporations and nothing more than a code word to increase taxes on ordinary Canadians.

What we are seeing now is a real Conservative agenda of privatization and deregulation to harmonize our programs with those in the United States. This Budget marks a move away from a unique Canadian life where we have unique social programs, a mixed economy, to a vision where social programs will become welfare programs and a mixed economy will eventually become the corporate economy.

What is the result of this Budget? I suggest the result will in all likelihood be to induce a recession. The Conservatives are predicting in the Budget documents an unemployment rate in 1990 of 8.5 per cent. The Minister across the way knows that. What we have here are cut-backs and tax increases. We will have stagflation. In fact, we will have a repeat of 1981-82. What we have is a clone of Allan MacEachen once again. In 1981 we had a tremendous increase in interest rates. In 1982 we had a very restrictive Budget and a great recession from which many parts of this country have still not recovered.

Finally, we cannot trust the Prime Minister any more. Do you remember, Mr. Speaker, that in the campaign he went around saying that social programs were a sacred trust? We cannot trust the Prime Minister.

Mr. Nunziata: You never could.

Mr. Nystrom: Do you remember, Mr. Speaker, that in the campaign he talked about the deficit not really being a serious problem and suddenly the deficit is the only problem. We cannot trust the Prime Minister of Canada.