

Belize, he did so anyway. It is estimated that shortly after completion the entire system will fall into the ocean due to natural erosion factors.

Such blatant disrespect for the well-being of taxpayers of this society is indicative of the manner in which federal Government officials deal with their provincial counterparts. It seems apparent from my few years of experience here that the Liberal Government deals with an approach known as "mailed fist". The only recourse the Government chooses is one of autocracy and authoritarianism. The prime example of this attitude is the negotiations toward the implementation of the emergency planning order, that draconian and undemocratic measure curbing the freedoms of Canadians.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I invite the Hon. Member to relate his comments to the Bill now under discussion which deals with transfer payments to the provinces. The Hon. Member is now engaging in comments going in another direction. I may have missed the link between the Bill under discussion and his remarks, but I invite him to be relevant.

Mr. Fretz: I appreciate your interjection, Mr. Speaker. I was just getting to the part where I was to tie it together. When you hear me, you will understand the relationship.

Mr. Malone: Not only will he understand, he will applaud.

Mr. Fretz: That is right. I thank the Hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Malone).

In a confidential memo made public last year by the Hon. Member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta (Mr. Friesen), a high level official in emergency planning advised the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Pinard) that if the province was not prepared to negotiate an emergency planning agreement, all federal funding under the joint emergency planning program would be cut off. That is my tie-in. It is this type of arrogance which has created more discord between the provinces and the federal Government than any other. Irresponsible behaviour begets irresponsible behaviour.

If we are to build a nation and retain the dictums "true North strong and free", we must remember and be obligated to follow the division of powers established by our founding fathers more than a century ago. It calls for a recognition of the rights of provinces as equal partners in Confederation.

I urge the Government and Cabinet to attempt, in their dwindling days, to return to Canada the unity we once knew and which has been so badly shaken by attitudes which undermine the very spirit of this nation.

As I mentioned previously, the future of the country lies with our youth. It is they who are suffering through lack of employment opportunities and an educational program which can no longer meet their needs. Their aspirations cannot be fulfilled by a system which has deliberately curtailed funding in the name of sewage projects, Canadair, Petro-Canada, budget bloopers, ministerial jets, entertainment funds to ensure the continued support of Liberal hacks, and a host of other equally deplorable tactics to expend public funds.

Established Programs Financing

Why must we isolate, antagonize and ostracize those very groups to which we should be accountable? In unity we can forge a strong nation; in isolation we forge discontent. That very discontent is what is being created by Bill C-12.

Let us look at the figures. Since fiscal year 1979-80, the federal share of the funding for health and post-secondary education decreased from a high of 50 per cent of total provincial expenditures to 42.4 per cent in 1982-83. The federal contribution to the provinces increased during that time from \$9.3 billion to \$12.1 billion. During the same time the capital and operating expenditures of the provinces have risen from \$18 billion to \$28.6 billion. In other words, the feds have given an extra \$3 billion, roughly, while the provinces needed over \$10 billion just to keep programs operating at the level they were in 1979.

Something has to give somewhere. Money does not grow on trees. No wonder tuition fees have increased so astronomically in the last few years. No wonder hospitals are considering user fees and extra billing. Yet, despite the fact that transfer payments have only increased marginally, the deficit has grown by leaps and bounds.

My point is that the problem with the deficit does not lie with the transfer payments. The fault lies elsewhere. It lies with the wasteful programs which I have already mentioned. It lies with the attitude of the Government toward the provinces, an attitude which, if continued, could lead us to the end of Confederation as we know it today.

In conclusion, it is high time the Government took off its rose-coloured glasses and viewed the world as it really is and cut back on unessential programs. It does no one any good to short-change the youth of the country in a half-hearted effort to cut expenditures.

Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, I am glad to be able to speak against this very unjust Bill, Bill C-12, an Act to amend the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements and Established Programs Financing Act, 1977. Briefly, this Bill tries to legalize the unlawful action of the Government in cutting back over \$100 million from the money promised by law to Canada's universities in 1983-84 by retroactively capping the natural increase to 6 per cent. It does worse for 1984-85 by capping the natural increase to 5 per cent. This has taken about \$42 million from Ontario's universities and colleges in 1983-84 and will likely take \$97 million in 1984-85.

How did we get into this mess? Those of us who came out of the Armed Forces in 1945 felt that the country started well. Tens of thousands of veterans, men and women, were supported through university by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Mr. Laniel: And that was with a Liberal Government.

Mr. Heap: This was a great boost to the growth of Canada. From 1945 to 1975, through immigration the population of Canada nearly doubled and university enrolment rose with it. In 1975 the federal and provincial governments began to cut expenditures on necessary services to the people of Canada, including universities and colleges. In 1982 the federal Gov-