

bottom 20 per cent are making only 4 per cent of the Canadian income. What inequality! Yet the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), when he was elected in 1968, crusaded this land talking about a just society and a more compassionate society. He talked about a society in which those who have would help those who have not. Instead, the gap has widened, and we now see legislation in the House today that will widen the gap even further by putting a 6 per cent and 5 per cent ceiling on the increase in pensions for retired public servants. The Government will do the same thing very soon to other pensioners in Canada and to Family Allowances. I say that it is unfair.

I believe the Government should rather be devising methods to stimulate the Canadian economy. We should realize that the current recession in Canada is very serious and world-wide in its consequence and nature. We are not simply experiencing a slowdown in demand, a crisis created by OPEC or a crisis created by armament expenditures, although these are all important factors, especially the spending on armament in the world. More important, however, we are experiencing a tremendous technological shift in our world where many of the older and more stable industries, such as automobile, steel, rubber and construction industries are going down. Even with a recovery in the world's economy these industries will still leave tens of thousands of people permanently out of work as a result of technological change revolutionizing the work force.

Unless we devise an economic strategy and alternative direction for this country when recovery is achieved, Canada will be left far behind. There will not be enough jobs to go around.

If we look at the world today, we find that the Japanese in particular, but the French, Germans, Dutch and other Europeans as well, are putting more of their funds and investment into productive industries. These are the new advanced technologies for which they are modernizing their plants and factories. Those countries will have the jobs. I suggest that the Government has not prepared for this technological change. This is why it has been condemned by Stuart Smith, Chairman of the Science Council of Canada. He is a former Liberal leader from Ontario who recently said in his Science Council report that our country is falling far behind in the field of advanced technology and that we will not have the jobs or control in this country to keep our people working in the years ahead. I suggest that we have already seen the ramifications of that.

For example, I have a portion of a study which was conducted by an economist in Montreal recently which tracks the average income in several industrialized countries over the last 20 years. We find from this study that the average income in Canada has fallen drastically in the last 20 years, as it has in the United States and in Great Britain.

In the 1960s, the United States was the wealthiest country in the world in terms of average per capita income. Canada was number two, Sweden was third, Switzerland was fourth, Britain was sixth, Germany was seventh, the French were ninth and the Danes were tenth. In the last 20 years, between 1960 and 1979, Canada, the United States and Great Britain

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have fallen far behind the western European countries. We find, for example, that Switzerland has moved up from fourth to first place. Denmark has moved from number ten to number two in terms of their standard of living in the world. The Swedes have remained at number three, while Germany has moved from seventh to fourth place. Belgium has moved up to number five, the Netherlands have moved from number thirteen to number six. France moved from number nine to number seven. The average standard of living of the United States has dropped from number one down to number eight. Canada has dropped from second to tenth place between the years 1960 and 1979, in terms of the average standard of living among the industrialized nations.

According to an article written by economists in 1981, based on 1979 figures, Canada is no longer first, second, third or fourth. It is now number nineteen in the world in terms of the average standard of living.

Mr. Kelly: That is not true.

Mr. Nystrom: It is number nineteen according to the economists. We have Liberals saying that is not true. I would like to see anyone in the House tell us that Canada's standard of living is higher than that.

Mr. Kelly: I am telling you right now.

Mr. Nystrom: I hope the Hon. Member gets up to put the figure on the record.

The average income in Canada in 1979 was \$8,376. In the United States the average income was \$9,637. Ahead of us are countries like Switzerland which ranks number four in relation to all the countries in the world, with an average income of \$13,987. I suggest that this is a damning testimony of the bungling we have seen in this country during the last 20 years. In terms of our standard of living, we have fallen from being one of the wealthiest countries in the world, one with tremendous promise and hope, to a country whose average income has dropped to nineteenth in the world according to the economists, or number ten among the industrialized countries of the world. I believe that sums up the record of the Government across the way.

The Science Council of Canada, many economists around the world, the OECD and others are saying that Canada is having problems now. Unless we change our strategy and come up with an economic plan or vision concerning the future, we will be even poorer in the next five or six years than we are now. That will happen despite the fact that we have a country with tremendous people, all kinds of resources, training and technology and much potential to produce massive quantities of fuel. We have all kinds of resources, such as energy, oil and hydropower resources, which European countries and Japan do not have. We have so much, but we still lack the vision to put all of it together for the ordinary citizen. Instead, we get crazy programs like the six and five program, which will sacrifice more income of the poor and the workers, the ordinary people, so that a few fat cats at the top can jet around the world and have a good time at their expense.