

form of our party and as early as June 6, 1972, the Minister of Finance, speaking in Truro, Nova Scotia, ridiculed the idea and charged the Leader of the Opposition with being irresponsible. On budget night, this very proposal was adopted almost without change.

It can therefore be readily seen that many of the proposals contained in this budget come originally from the Conservative party. However, it is not a good budget because it does not go far enough. By adopting only half the measures put forward by the Progressive Conservative party it has not resulted in a good budget. All the measures we proposed should have been accepted, not just half measures. If someone likes a package of free paper and pretty ribbon, they will like this budget, Mr. Speaker. But if a person likes to wait until they open the package to see the prize inside, then I think he will find the budget disappointing.

The 5 per cent income tax allowance turns out to be only 2 per cent over last year's rate. In terms of dollars in one's pocket it might not be too impressive. A married breadwinner supporting two children under the age of sixteen years and earning around \$7,000 a year will have in his pocket about \$1.97 more. It certainly won't burn a hole in his pocket. I was very surprised that the old age pension was not raised to at least \$115 a month. I would hope that this goal will be attained in the very near future. My personal feeling is that our senior citizens deserve this consideration.

In the long run I think this budget will fail. It will not reduce unemployment below the present rate of 6 to 7 per cent. I think inflation will continue. The Minister of Finance should have continued to follow the Tory policies. He should not have drawn back. He should have gone much further. He was too timid. He should have pulled the throttle wide open and made personal income tax cuts of the order of 7 to 10 per cent. The old age pension should have been raised to at least \$115, and he should have introduced across the board tax cuts for Canadian-owned corporations to encourage expansion and Canadian ownership.

Perhaps even more important, he should have introduced a price-wage-profit-dividend freeze to cool our inflationary psychology for a 90-day period during which we could have held discussions with business, labour and other sectors of the economy with a view to agreement upon a more permanent scheme of controls so that inflation would not run rampant.

In the budget of February 19 the minister told us the government would lead the way in showing restraint in terms of expenditure. In fact, expenditures increased. I believe the government should set an example and cut down on money being spent on unnecessary programs. I believe the government should have the courage to introduce Bill C-125 and have it debated. I suggest the introduction of a small business tax incentive to encourage small business, which is the lifeblood of our society. Incidentally, this would help create more jobs.

I believe the 11 per cent sales tax on building materials should be removed so as to stimulate the construction industry and provide more employment. I believe sales taxes should be removed from all clothing, thus placing more purchasing power in the hands of the individual. I

*The Budget—Mrs. Morin*

believe, further, that we should encourage Canadian equity ownership by means of tax incentives.

• (1730)

Unfortunately, the budget did not include provisions for encouraging the export industry. This industry definitely should be encouraged so more jobs will be created and Canadians will have a better standard of living. Lastly, I believe there should have been included a definite "buy Canadian" program with the Canadian government encouraging Canadians to buy the products of Canadian industries rather than continuously purchasing abroad.

I believe my time has expired, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I thank the hon. member for his co-operation.

[*Translation*]

**Mrs. Albanie Morin (Louis-Hébert):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to seize this opportunity to bring up a matter which, in my opinion, is very important for the riding of Louis-Hébert and for the whole metropolitan region of Greater Quebec.

[*English*]

Several projects to provide infrastructure, currently under way, in the vicinity of Quebec City will enable that area after 300 years of existence to catch up gradually with the rest of Canada, or at least to reduce the gap separating the standard of living of Quebecers from that of Canadians in other provinces.

[*Translation*]

Now, Mr. Speaker, to serve this large metropolitan area which is in the process of becoming one of the great Canadian capitals, we, in Quebec, need an airport capable of meeting the needs that will spring from the economic vitality that is just around the corner for Quebec.

[*English*]

Is Quebec asking to be treated differently from other areas of the country?

[*Translation*]

Is the extension of the runways important to the development of the Quebec area? Let us look at the situation, Mr. Speaker.

Of the ten provincial capitals in Canada, Quebec is the one that has the shortest landing strips. Of the metropolitan areas with more than 400,000 people, Quebec is the one with the shortest landing strips. Finally, of the ten largest metropolitan areas in Canada, Quebec is the only one that is not served by an international airport.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker, we were pleased to learn that the main runway at Windsor airport, which was 7,000 feet long, would be increased to over 8,500 feet. We were also pleased to learn that the main runway at the airport at London, Ontario, would also be lengthened. Yet in terms of passenger arrivals and landings, these airports are in eighteenth and nineteenth places, whereas the Quebec city airport is in tenth place.