

EDUCATION

AMOUNT OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. Blaine A. Thacker (Lethbridge-Foothills): Madam Speaker, the Liberal Party proclaims its commitment to our post-secondary education system. This commitment, however, is not reflected in reality.

Statistics show that education was the single largest item in Government expenditures during 1970-1971 at 22.1 per cent. By 1979-1980 it was 17 per cent, and it has dropped even more today.

The Liberal decision to impose a six and five curbs on post-secondary education translates into a further cutback of the money allocated to universities, \$100 million in 1983-1984 and \$250 million in 1984-1985. Indeed, last year the Government cut some \$300 million by way of the revenue guarantee.

Canada needs more research development and highly qualified manpower to boost the economy's recovery. The Liberal decision to pass the brunt of budget cuts onto the post-secondary institutions renders its commitment meaningless and hypocritical.

For the past 15 years Canadians have been suffering the Liberal experiment with the economy. When it comes to attacks on education, the core of our very nation, it is important that we all say, "No."

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THE ECONOMY

BUY CANADIAN PROGRAM URGED

Mr. Jim Peterson (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State for Economic Development and Minister of State for Science and Technology): Madam Speaker, two divergent approaches have been taken to curing the economic problems of the industrialized nations. At one extreme is Reaganomics. It finds many supporters in the Official Opposition.

An Hon. Member: And in the Liberals.

Mr. Peterson: But Americans have taught Canadians that monetarism and supply side economics are not the answer.

Mr. Blenkarn: Why are the Americans doing so well, then?

Mr. Peterson: At the other extreme is the French theory that Governments can spend a country out of recession. The NDP is a convert to this approach. The result is increased inflation and interest rates in France and an 8 per cent devaluation yesterday. This is a time for sanity.

Mr. Nielsen: Right.

Mr. Peterson: Our approach has been a dramatic decline in both inflation and the interest rates.

An Hon. Member: And the dollar.

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Mr. Peterson: We know there is no quick fix. We can only earn our way to a more prosperous future. But can we do better? Yes.

Mr. Nielsen: Not you fellows—over here.

Mr. Peterson: And herein lies our hope.

To start with, each of us, as consumers, can shop Canadian. Why buy foreign food when our farm produce is the cheapest in the world? Why buy foreign cars when we make quality vehicles in Canada? Why should we not buy Canadian shoes and clothes?

Mr. Nielsen: And steel pipes.

Mr. Peterson: Made in Canada is a proud label. As consumers, each of us can help create new jobs in Canada; each of us can contribute to our economic recovery. We can help ourselves by helping our fellow Canadians.

Mr. Epp: We want Peterson in the cabinet.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

HONDURAS AND NICARAGUA—RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENT

Mr. Bob Ogle (Saskatoon East): Madam Speaker, as of this past week the heaviest fighting has taken place in Nicaragua since the overthrow of Somoza in 1979. The troops who are bringing the fighting into Nicaragua from Honduras are ex-Somozista guards. *Newsweek* and *The New York Times* have documented the fact that they are being supported by the CIA with finances, weapons, and advisers.

Today, Madam Speaker, I propose to the Government of Canada that Canada must seriously consider whether it should withhold Government to Government bilateral aid to Honduras as long as Honduras permits these forces to use Honduras as their base against Nicaragua.

Secondly, I would ask the Government of Canada to put some muscle into the co-operation that it has promised to Mexico and Venezuela to bring about a ceasefire on that border.

Thirdly, I propose that the Government of Canada strongly protest to Vice President Bush tomorrow when he visits Canada about the U.S. involvement on that frontier.

Finally, I ask that the Government of Honduras sign the United Nations Agreement on Refugees. At the present time Honduras has not signed this agreement, which makes it very difficult for the U.N. to get inside that country where there are literally hundreds of thousands of refugees from several conflicts in the area.

In the light of that, and realizing that Honduras is the poorest country in Central America, I would hope that some of these recommendations that I have just made will be put into effect to promote peace in that country.