

Job opportunities must be found and income uncertainties overcome if all Canadians are to share in the richness of this land.

Mr. Speaker, every Canadian, and especially the members of Parliament, know that something must be done to solve income uncertainties. It is not enough to multiply jobs, because everyone knows that today technology is increasingly replacing human resources in work. When, for instance, building a new paper plant in the Sept-Îles area, new machinery, new technology are included, to replace people. And the era of technology is the very reason why a plant like the Canadian International Paper Company in Témiscamingue, in my constituency, is closing down. They did not update their facilities in time.

But had they modernized them, there would of course have been lay-offs. It is therefore a moot point whether one should reject progress and new technology, reject automation which is the substitution of machines for men. If men are to be replaced, should that be determined now? I reply in the affirmative. Should technology work to the detriment of people or in favour of human beings, of Canadian citizens?

Mr. Speaker, if the purpose of advanced technology is to penalize people, we are in the right system as that is just what is happening now. But if we recognize that machines should give men more freedom, that they should serve human beings, it is imperative that we organize a financial system wherein Canadians have access to the products of automation. That will be showing respect for human beings, and without disdaining progress and science.

Such is the solution: restore some balance between money and our material possibilities.

Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne states that we must "make sure that as many jobs as possible are available." The government expresses pious wishes for which we have no need. We have seen that the federal government has given a \$45,000 grant to develop a snowmobile track, one of \$50,000 to cut branches in order to create employment. We are told that some workers, at 50° below zero, will be cutting branches along highways during a month and a half to create jobs. When spring comes, the branches will evidently be as high as they are now, but it will be pointed out that jobs were created.

This reminds me of the two unemployed who were discussing near a gravel pit where a steam-shovel with a capacity of 2 or 3 yards was quickly loading trucks. Both men had a small shovel. One said to the other: "Do you know old boy that this shovel can replace 50 men like you and me? This is automation. If we took it away, we could hire 50 men. Let's put it away in the garage as certain municipalities did with their ploughs and tractors so they could hire some unemployed and make them shovel snow. And the other asked: "Why?" The first guy answered: "To give jobs to more people" Then, the other replied: "In that case, it would be better to use 250 men working with teaspoons. We would do the same job as the steam-shovel or 50 workers with ordinary shovels if we used teaspoons."

You will say it is ridiculous. Well, the present system is that stupid, Mr. Speaker. Technology and machinery are discarded, we are afraid of them because we know that they are prejudicial to workers. And instead of putting

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machines at the service of human beings, the reverse is being done. When machines are operating, men are suffering. So that men may survive, science, progress and machines are being put aside.

Mr. Speaker, job creation and price stability are the result of a policy which brings about an economic climate that can be beneficial to business and other sectors of the community.

Creation of jobs. This government has stated: We have created many jobs. According to statistics, this also had the effect of putting untold numbers of people on the unemployment roll.

The number of unemployed has increased by 135,000 over one month. As I said a while ago, there are close to 700,000 unemployed and we are told that it could be worse. That can improve a little, thanks to winter works, from now until the next election. In fact, I said that the election would be on June 26, 1972 and that I had no direct line with the Holy Ghost nor with the Prime Minister. This is a forecast.

Mr. Speaker, from now until election time, these jobs will continue to exist, but once the election is over, we will suffer again from such an economic slowdown that, by next fall, we will have one million or perhaps more unemployed.

When we are in this House and consider all these facts, these figures and these statistics, we find out that all along the Progressive Conservative members have been decrying the Speech from the Throne without suggesting anything concrete.

• (1230)

As usual, the New Democratic Party blames the Americans. They claim that the Americans are responsible. For my part, I say that the fault does not lie with others, but with ourselves, if things are not going right.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, before I run out of time, I now move, seconded by the hon. member for Abitibi (Mr. Laprise), the following amendment:

That the amendment be amended by striking out all the words after "economic deprivation" and replacing them with the following:

"resulting from the absence of any monetary reform tailored to the needs of the Canadian society."

Mr. Speaker, for many years now, we have been advocating monetary reform. Many find this amusing, but I think that today more serious consideration is given to what the Cr ditistes recommend. It is unfortunate that so much time is needed to make people understand and to make them stop and think. Those who used to laugh when Social Credit was mentioned did not know why they were laughing. I say to them: It is all very well to laugh, but one must know why. So, study Social Credit and if it is funny, well then go ahead and laugh. If it is not amusing, try at least to act in a responsible manner and to consider the solution that we propose.

We speak today of the use of the Bank of Canada. I was happy recently to hear the Quebec Premier speak about the famous James Bay project and to state on television that he would probably ask the Bank of Canada to help finance this project.