

*The Address—Mr. Rompkey*

allocated to youth employment as opposed to the \$100 million that had been promised by this Party when we formed the Government of Canada. Moreover, there have been cuts in the industrial training allowance.

Let me give a small example of what that means to a northern community. The radio station in Nain, Labrador, and Inuit community, was depending on that industrial training allowance to employ trainees to operate a radio station for the whole of the northern Labrador coast in the Inuit language. If those industrial training programs are cut, then that project will have to be cancelled. It is a very important project for their communication purposes and the development of their area and society. That is an example of the effect it will have.

I wonder how many members of the Opposition realize those effects when they put those programs in place? We do not know what further cuts there will be. For example, we do not know about the transfer payments for education. What will happen to the Established Programs Financing? We already know that all of the money that goes to the provinces does not get to the universities, into education and to the students. We know that the provincial governments can use that money for paving roads, or whatever they want. If the EPF is cut further, the universities and post-secondary institutions will find themselves hardpressed, and I submit that the students will be carrying the burden in the final analysis. They will not only be carrying an educational burden but a financial one as well. We do not know what further cuts are coming but we do know that young people have seen an immediate cut to systems which they had taken for granted for job-creation.

I have said that I have no quarrel with the idea of giving priority to the private sector. I have no quarrel with cutting the deficit. However, when one embarks on such a policy, one must take regional differences into account. This country is not the same everywhere. Downtown Toronto and Labrador are two entirely different regions. The Government does not consider regional differences when it applies one policy right across the country.

We on this side gave a high priority to regional development. Now I hardly hear it mentioned. It is as if the Atlantic and the North do not exist. It is as if they are the forgotten people in this country. I have not heard any provincial premiers from the Atlantic say anything about the economic statement. Have any Government Members from the Atlantic Provinces said anything about it? Were they consulted and was there advice taken? If they were consulted they could not have been listened to. Either way they stand condemned.

I hope that I am wrong but I believe this budget will be a severe burden on the people in the extreme regions of this country, particularly in the Atlantic and in the North. It will be a long cold winter for those people. Newfoundlanders and Labradorians and people in the North will come to fully understand this winter the meaning of the old saying, "Tory times are hard times".

**Mr. Crosbie:** Mr. Speaker, first I must congratulate the Hon. Member for his fifth election. That is shocking news, indeed, but we must congratulate him for that.

When he finished his remarks he said that he hoped he is wrong. I am raising right now to tell him that he does not have to wait any longer for that hope to be fulfilled. He is wrong. He was wrong in just about everything he said during his comments.

He said that he had no quarrel with cutting the deficit, and then spent 20 minutes opposing in every way he could every suggested cut to the deficit. If the Hon. Gentleman has no quarrel with cutting the deficit, why is he quarreling with it? Why is he on his feet bringing forward all these objections if he does not quarrel with cutting the deficit?

The hon. gentleman tut-tutted about transfer of payments for education. There has been no suggestion by the Government whatsoever that transfer payments for post-secondary education to the provinces will be cut. As a matter of fact, the hon. gentleman was a minister in the government that, several years ago, put a ceiling on transfer payments to the provinces for education, contrary to agreements with the provinces. Now the hon. gentleman, the "Uriah Heap" of 1984, gets up and wrings his hands over some problem there will be with transfer payments for education when the hon. gentleman's government did exactly that by imposing a 6 and 5 per cent ceiling. The honourable "Uriah" should not come into the House and heap this kind of hypocrisy before Members of the House. He is saying "Please don't do what we did". I can convey the message to him that we will not do what he did.

The hon. gentleman weeps about northern benefits. He was a member of a government that announced it was eliminating the tax allowance for northern benefits given to people who live in the North. That government only changed it after the Opposition in the House sent out an outraged howl and the people of the North added their voices to it. Therefore we are glad to have him aboard and we know now that he is opposed to taxation in the North. We hope to have him on our side fighting for the cause of not letting that happen.

I did not hear a word from the hon. gentleman about the spouses' allowance. We did not hear him say that he was opposed to the increase in spouses' allowance this year that we are implementing for single persons in Canada between the ages of 60 and 64. They are primarily women who desperately need the assistance they will get this year, to the tune of \$200 million, from the Government by way of an improved spouses' allowance.

We did not hear a word from the hon. gentleman about the veterans who will receive increased benefits this year as a result of the increase of \$22 million with respect to veterans' benefits.

We heard the hon. gentleman complaining that a forestry centre would not be moved from St. John's to Corner Brook. Of course, there was a unanimous report recommending that it not be moved from St. John's. Further, the hon. gentleman forgot to say that partly as a result of this Government's