

I would like to spend a few moments speaking about what should be done to deal with inflation which makes our products harder to sell and thereby reduces sales, production and jobs. We have a right to ask what the government should do to keep the inflation within the 2½ per cent increase per year, the average inflation year by year that we have experienced in this country for the past 70 years since DBS started keeping track of that figure. This average 2½ per cent per year permits us to sell our products at prices satisfactory to our customers and to maintain our standard of living.

As we all know, a year ago the government tried to control inflation by means of voluntary guidelines. They failed dismally because no penalties were provided for not observing these guidelines. In order to keep inflation within a 2½ per cent yearly increase, the government must work out a percentage increase above which prices cannot be allowed to rise within a year and a percentage increase above which wages cannot be allowed to rise in that same year in order to make that price limitation possible. These will be the price and wage guidelines for the year ahead.

The government must advise management and labour that if these guidelines are not obeyed, mandatory price and wage controls will be introduced without delay. In order to put teeth into this program, so that management and labour will know the government means what it says, it should now be at work preparing these mandatory controls. It all depends whether management and labour believe that the government has the courage to bring in controls if its guidelines are not obeyed. If management and labour are so convinced, and I know this because I talked to a great many businessmen and labour leaders who have told me the same thing—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but I must advise him that his time has expired. He may continue if there is unanimous consent. Is there such consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Hees:** Thank you very much. I appreciate the courtesy of my fellow members. I assure them I will only be one more minute.

It is very important that management and labour know that the government means what it says and has the courage to bring in mandatory price and wage controls if there is no adherence to voluntary guidelines. Labour and management leaders across the country have told me that the one thing they do not want is mandatory controls. If they are convinced that the government will bring them in if voluntary guidelines are not obeyed, these guidelines will be obeyed. That is what the government must do.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that there is a great deal to be done to bring unemployment and inflation under control. The government should have started to take these steps a long time ago. We have pointed out what these steps are. We continue to urge the government that they must act now. It is imperative that these steps be taken without further delay.

### *Employment Programs*

## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

### SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: The hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis)—Manpower—Alleged discrimination against women in training programs; the hon. member for Compton (Mr. Latulippe)—Inquiry of the Ministry.

## GOVERNMENT ORDERS

### BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—ALLEGED FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO ESTABLISH PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE FULL EMPLOYMENT

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Comeau:

That this House records its deep concern upon reviewing the government's continuing repudiation of its duty to establish full employment programs, and the consequent failure by the government to establish programs and policies which will give young Canadians the opportunity to enter the labour force.

**Mr. P. M. Mahoney (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, ordinarily one congratulates a member and thanks him for bringing a motion before the House. However, today, the hon. member for South Western Nova (Mr. Comeau) has to be congratulated on his acting ability. Seldom have I heard so many tired platitudes and trite clichés strung together in such a tone of righteous indignation as we have been treated to by the hon. member.

We have been blessed because the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings (Mr. Hees) has given us a preview of what is likely to happen. Had the Minister of Finance (Mr. Benson) known that his work was being done for him elsewhere, no doubt he would have been here today. However, the choice of the subject today finds the Minister of Finance very close to a budget and hence, in a practical way, precluded from taking part in this debate.

During the series of debates that we have been treated to on opposition days throughout the winter and spring seasons, various ministers have described the active, effective programs which their departments are conducting to improve the employment opportunities of Canadians generally and young Canadians in particular. These programs are important, substantial, practical and effective, but the fact remains that in our free enterprise country, the major opportunities to solve economic problems, including the provision of more employment, lie in the private sector. There is a distinct limit to the results that government can attain directly.

This is not to say that additional government interventions in the economy would not be possible. Whether