

The Address—Mr. Broadbent

quarter have gone up 92 per cent. Bank profits came out yesterday and what are they? The poor banks are at \$1.75 billion. The banks are right back exactly where they were before the recession. I am saying to the Government, "Talk honestly about the recovery". In the main, the recovery which has occurred has been on the business side of the ledger, for the rich, for those who need it least. That is where it has been going on. I am not begrudging that in this context, but I am saying that it is not taking place at the unemployment levels. If we have had almost full recovery in profits, and that will come in the first quarter of 1984, we have not had it in unemployment. Unemployment now is nowhere near what it was back in 1981 when it was at 7.2 per cent. Bank profits are right back to where they were before the recession. With almost 1.5 million, in real numbers, of unemployed Canadians there has been no recovery in terms of unemployment. Let us talk a bit more honestly about the notion of fairness. I would also like to say that we should make a commitment to a target level of unemployment to bring down that disastrous figure of around 11 per cent unemployed, a figure with which no civilized nation should live happily.

● (1550)

There are other matters in Canada that are of concern which illustrate the point I want to make about the Government's failure to mobilize the people in our land, because it has failed itself to recognize that values like fairness are very effective in obtaining concrete action. If the Government is not prepared to be fair, it is not going to get the concrete action it desires.

Let me use wages as another example. From time to time I have frank discussions with businessmen. They often, to reveal their bias, as do Cabinet Ministers to reveal theirs, are very happy to talk about men and women being reasonable in their wage and salary demands. Restraint is all for ordinary workers. There is a massive advertising campaign put on to get workers to keep their wage and salary demands down. Through you, Mr. Speaker, I ask the Prime Minister if it is reasonable in Canada in 1983 to ask workers to keep their wages and salary demands down if at the same time in this country, in this House of Commons, we maintain a tax system which is riddled with golden loopholes that permit thousands of upper income Canadians not to pay a penny in income tax?

Some Hon. Members: Shame, shame.

Mr. Broadbent: If we want the workers to be reasonable regarding wages and salaries, then it is time that upper income Canadians paid their fair share in this country of ours.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Broadbent: I repeat to the Government with total sincerity that if it wants to go to the steelworkers or the IWA or the UAW and ask them to be reasonable on their wage and salary demands, by God it will be more effective if it is prepared to say, "We will introduce major tax reform at the same time". It is the failure of this Government to make that

double approach which has caused it to lose support as never before from those groups up to this point in history, and will cause it not to get the kind of support that would be necessary for its otherwise laudable goals which are laid out in the Throne Speech.

I am saying, Mr. Speaker, that if Canadian workers are to co-operate on technological change, if our youth are to feel good about their country, if pensioners are to feel content, if part-time workers, whether men or women, are to cease feeling grieved about their own nation, then concrete changes based on fairness are required, and required now, by this Parliament.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Broadbent: I would now like to shift to the international field in which the Prime Minister has spent many recent weeks concerned about an issue that, to understate it considerably, has the support in its objectives of virtually every Canadian that I know, not to mention all people throughout the world. Many fine international goals have been stated by the Prime Minister, some in the Throne Speech and some outside the Throne Speech. What strikes me is the contradiction between the stated goals in terms of what we expect of others and many of the practices of our own Government here at home.

Once again I say that the perception of a double standard seems to me to be inevitable. If this perception of a double standard has led to less agreement, as I believe it has, than otherwise would have been the case in terms of some of those goals, then there is no one for the Government to blame but itself. To give some examples, it is good to talk about the need to halt the nuclear arms spiral abroad. We all agree on that. I simply say it would be more persuasive if Canada itself were not testing vehicles capable of delivering nuclear weapons or producing components of nuclear weapons here at home.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Broadbent: It is very important to urge that steps be taken to stop the development of anti-satellite weapons systems. The Prime Minister has made that one of his goals. I say again that it would be more persuasive if we ourselves were not participating in the development of military satellite technology with the United States.

It is important, as the Prime did himself, to go to India to urge that Government, among others, to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. This argument may have been better received by the Prime Minister of India if we had taken steps at home to declare ourselves a nuclear weapons free zone so that, not only would we have no nuclear weapons stored in Canada, but neither our air space nor our harbours could be used by vehicles carrying nuclear weapons. That too would be a demonstration that would be innovative and concrete. I suggest that would perhaps be persuasive to other nations that we are seeking to follow a serious nuclear role.

Surely, Mr. Speaker, the international perception of the unfairness of our argument, because the Government simply refuses to set an example, is one important reason, if not the