

rich. It has led to decreased taxes for corporations and consequently to an economy that is suffering very badly.

I mentioned today in Question Period that some of the tax loopholes are especially gross and unbelievable. I find it inconceivable that a government, after it had been pointed out to them, would still keep a provision in the tax system permitting a company to hire escort services for their clients. I asked the Minister of Finance about this today and he refused to answer the question. I think he was embarrassed. He certainly should be embarrassed. This government should be embarrassed by what it has given the rich, the powerful and the well off in this country at a time when people are suffering so badly across this country.

As we look through this budget, there is no action to expand jobs. In fact I can point to things in this budget that reduce jobs such as the elimination of co-operative housing. This excellent program has benefited thousands of people across this country, not only those who live in co-operative housing but also those who build that co-operative housing and produce the materials that go into it. Mr. Speaker, I think your timing must be slightly off. It was about four o'clock when I started. If I can continue—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): I want to be clear. I think you have two minutes left in your speech.

Mr. Langdon: Mr. Speaker, all I can say is that having looked at the clock when I got up and it now being just past a quarter after, it seems to me that two minutes is rather a remarkable interpretation.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Order, please. I want to remind the hon. speaker that I gave him two minutes more than the usual time because of the interruption. You have two minutes left.

Mr. Langdon: It seems to me that what we have in front of us is a budget which does not provide a response to the answers of Canadians. Instead it provides answers to the needs that the large scale business community in this country wanted. It is not surprising the Minister of Finance, when he quoted those who supported his budget, said today that they had support from the Business Council on National Issues. They had support from the Chamber of Commerce and from the manufac-

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turers. That is not surprising. It is a budget that was written for them, not for the average person in this country. That is the reality.

• (1620)

I say to this government and I say to this minister that they have to get a vision of reality.

He talked about realism before he presented this budget. He has to recognize that the reality across this country is a grim and tough reality. It is a grim and tough reality with many, many people out of work.

That required a budget that had compassion, that had force, that gave leadership and that put people back to work. That is not the budget that we have before us and that is why I would like to move a subamendment to the amendment which has been moved. I move:

That the amendment be amended by adding the following words after the words "monetary policies":

specifically, its failure to eliminate unfair tax loopholes for the rich

and by adding the following words after the words "economic growth":

, to reach full employment in Canada and significantly reduce defence spending so as to provide funds to assist in the expansion of jobs

That amendment can give us a direction which will put people back to work and give us a sense of hope for the country.

Mr. Dennis Mills (Broadview—Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, I listened carefully to the member for Essex—Windsor and there were many things he said in his speech that I agree with.

I was hoping that the Minister of Finance naturally would take a much more aggressive approach in tax reform. It is no secret to this House where I stand on comprehensive tax reform.

I would have thought that there would have been a little bit more in this budget, a lot more actually for training. I supported the member for Essex—Windsor on that.

As I listened to him I could not help but think of my own province, the province of Ontario. Some of those same criticisms that he was putting toward the government could also be applied toward the premier of Ontario.