

The Budget—Mr. Dinsdale

Mr. Osler: Give us the figures for the time you were a cabinet minister and then we will believe you.

Mr. Dinsdale: I am dealing with 1966 to 1971. The Minister of Supply and Services has not yet spoken in this debate. I hope that he will. I would point out that what has happened in Manitoba in recent years has not helped to solve the fundamental problems that the hon. gentleman has described in speeches across western Canada. There is still inequity with respect to freight rates. The tariff is still stacked against us, and DREE is now stacked against us because it is actually luring away from the province the new industries which we have been establishing in recent years, because of the more attractive offers in terms of capital resources that are made available to them to relocate in other parts of Canada.

I know the minister has been proud of the fact that we are getting a new Mint in Manitoba. Also, no less than three federal ministers were present—there was a picture in the paper to prove it—at a stone-laying ceremony the other day in the city of Winnipeg with respect to the new Canada Grains Council building. There were three ministers present.

Mr. Osler: Four ministers, one NDP and three Liberals.

Mr. Dinsdale: I was referring to federal cabinet ministers. That might be good public relations.

Mr. Osler: If we could have found Tory ministers, they would have been there.

Mr. Dinsdale: There were no ministers present when the air bases were closed at Gimli and Rivers. As the hon. member for Marquette (Mr. Stewart) pointed out in a question the other day, this resulted in a loss of some 3,000 jobs. I do not think that that slack will be taken up at the Mint.

Mr. Orlikow: What about the overhaul base in Winnipeg? You forgot about that.

Mr. Dinsdale: I would point out that this sort of tokenism is not good enough and I hope a strong government spokesman will speak out on behalf of this neglected area of Canada before the debate is concluded. We sometimes forget about the great developments that took place during the period about which my friend, the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre, wants me to talk, such as the development at Whiteshell which was a really positive development largely initiated by the then member for Winnipeg South Centre who at that time was on the treasury benches. He encouraged the location of the atomic reactor there which has been the basis of the establishment of a new community.

This is the sort of positive development which we would like to see encouraged by the ministers who represent western Canada, not the tokenism of a Mint which has not too much to offer in terms of employment and opportunity. We could talk about the development in Thompson, Manitoba. The hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre wants me to refer to those days because he wants to talk about the development at the Pas.

Mr. Osler: Yes, talk about The Pas.

[Mr. Dinsdale.]

Mr. Dinsdale: I was present at the opening of the Thompson community in 1960, and from a standing start in that year it has developed to a thriving community of some 18,000 citizens. This is the sort of development we want to see encouraged by the present government. Perhaps the Minister of Supply and Services will enlighten us on this point.

I should like to make a brief reference to the defence by the Minister of Agriculture who spoke about all the wonderful things that have recently taken place in the agricultural economy. This government gave us LIFT, the program that was supposed to stabilize the prairie grain economy because there were no markets available and we were producing too much and had to reduce our cereal crop production potential. The farmers named the program "lower income for tomorrow" even though the government of the day called it Lower inventory For Tomorrow.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but he has gone beyond his time. Unless the hon. member has the unanimous consent of the House, he will not be able to continue. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

• (1710)

[Translation]

Mr. Marcel Roy (Laval): Mr. Speaker, the temptation to enter the debate on the budget tabled on May 8 last by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) was too great for me to resist any longer.

I should like first of all to congratulate the minister for his great understanding of the problems which are of concern for the Canadian people and for putting such a humane philosophy as the basis for this budget. The Minister of Finance has been the architect of our time when he brought forward a budget to reinforce the Canadian economy, provide incentives that will enable Canadian industries to grow, to be competitive and provide steadier employment. I therefore wish to join with other hon. members in congratulating the minister on his masterpiece, which is realistic and corresponds to Canadian aspirations.

Mr. Speaker, I listened a while ago to the comments of the previous speaker, the hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale), on agriculture as well as on the speech delivered last night in this House by the hon. Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson). I doubt that he was here when the minister delivered his speech and that doubt is being confirmed because I am sure that he did not even read the speech of the Minister of Agriculture. I will quote from page 2485 of *Hansard*:

The performance of 1970-1971, when we sold 706 million bushels of grain, was an all-time record. This year we will exceed it by a great amount.

Those are good news as far as agriculture is concerned and as Canadians, when we sat on the committee on agriculture, we were happy to hear about the establishment of a two-price system for grains used in domestic