

*The Budget—Mr. Malépart*

way to allow the 3 million homemakers in Canada to contribute to the Canada and Quebec Pension Plans. Still more promises, Mr. Speaker! All that we have are more and more taxes to pay, and there is nothing for ordinary Canadians.

Mr. Speaker, it is the same Government which had said it would never touch senior citizens' pensions. Hon. Members, especially those of the Progressive Conservative Party, will certainly remember the proposed de-indexation of Old Age Security Pensions. Without their vigilance and action, senior citizens would have been penalized again. But thanks to their pressure and to Mrs. Solange Denis who had said of the Prime Minister what the Canadian people generally think of him now—"Charlie Brown, that is not worth much!"—the Government had to back down.

But in spite of all that, thanks to the New Horizons Program which makes it possible to organize in every municipality, village, parish or riding, clubs for the Golden Age, senior citizens can choose a board of directors and organize cultural, sport and social activities, and thus continue to play an important role in society.

Mr. Speaker, this Government has even made cuts in the New Horizons Program, intended for senior citizens, reducing its budget by 27 per cent or nearly \$3 million.

Mr. Speaker, I should like to deal now with the financial consequences of these cuts on our senior citizens. I am talking here in terms of income tax. A couple of senior citizens earning \$15,000! This couple will have to pay \$130 more in 1987. They paid \$45 more in 1986.

Mr. Speaker, those people have made this land what it is. Honourable Members here are reaping the benefits of the work and dedication of that generation that laboured at a time when there were starvation wages, unacceptable conditions and exploitation by the rich because there were no labour unions. In return, the young generation here and the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) keep on favouring the rich only, giving nothing to and showing no respect for those parents and the old generation.

Well, that population will remember. Already, today's survey indicated there is only 22 per cent support. And that was before the Budget, Mr. Speaker. I am convinced the trend will continue until there is nothing left of that group in society that is only here to favour the rich.

Let us look at the impact on families. Despite what we remember of the Throne Speech, that official document, that statement made by the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) with its commitments, Mr. Speaker. What is the impact on Canadian families of the three budgets put forward by this Government? First, everyone will remember the 3 per cent cut on family allowance indexing. And still today, the Minister of Finance prefers to maintain the so-called capital gains exemption for the rich, because it favours the rich, rather than reinstating full indexing of family allowance.

**Mr. Comeau:** You are speaking through your hat!

**Mr. Malépart:** I can appreciate that a Tory Member says I am speaking through my hat, because he only owes money to the rich, or again there is patronage or corruption. But the people who are watching know that very well. Mothers know very well that since this Government has been in power, family allowance does not increase as it should. And they know very well that the better off—the rich—are getting more money from this Tory Government.

This year, Mr. Speaker, the Government will be snatching away \$135 million from mothers. Last year it was \$40 million, and the year before \$15 million. This will go on until 1991. The Government intends to save \$1.21 billion on the backs of Canadian families. While in 1985-86 only, the rich people's capital gains exemption cost \$1.2 billion. I understand that the Conservative Member who shouted earlier is rich, there is something for his pockets. It is the sole reason for his being here but, Mr. Speaker, let me tell that Member that Liberal Members did not come here to fill their pockets. They came here to accomplish something for all the Canadian people.

Let us remember, Mr. Speaker, that this same Government decided to tax people's health by introducing a sales tax on drugs. This Government successively increased the sales tax on appliances generally, and I recall that for the fourth time yesterday, the Minister hiked the sales tax on fuel, thus increasing it by 4 cents a litre or 18 cents a gallon over two years and a few months.

Such is the record of this Conservative government, Mr. Speaker. And what are the consequences of those three budgets for our low and middle income families? A two children family with the head of the family earning an income of \$15,000 will have to pay \$490 more in income and indirect taxes for 1987 because of this Conservative government budget. A two children family where both parents work and earn \$15,000 each, a family with two kids and a \$30,000 income, will have to pay \$966 more in income tax for 1987 because of the decisions made by this Conservative government in its three budgets.

Let us see, Mr. Speaker, what the impact will be on housing. Everybody knows that in each district there are senior citizens who will become entitled to what is called social housing, whether it be housing co-operatives or low rent housing, but waiting lists are very long in every municipality. As we remember, the government made huge cutbacks. This program is no longer working, and now there is nothing in the budget to remedy those injustices.

To recap, Mr. Speaker, there is absolutely nothing in this budget for senior citizens; there is absolutely nothing for Canadian families; there is absolutely nothing for housing. But can anyone tell me where in this Budget can we find anything likely to give confidence to the youth of this country and prove to them that this Government cares about them? We know that the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Bouchard) is going to announce cuts in the employment programs included in the documents later on. Nothing for our youth, nothing to replace the Katimavik program that was