

The Address—Mr. Peters

house, furniture and everything else, it would only last one or two months. They may be fairly highly paid—they are certainly highly paid in Sudbury—but that is a very high cost area in which to live. If these people are laid off there will be a disaster within two or three months.

● (1442)

A husband looks for jobs that do not exist. He takes a trip to the city, but finds that because of a disability or lack of education he is not entitled to a job in the secondary industry. He finds he does not have a saleable commodity in the other mining communities because there are no job openings there. When this man returns home, obviously there is great difficulty. It often results in someone walking out, and a broken home. In the end, the municipality and the country have to make the contribution that should be made by the company or the industry in which he was employed. Instead, he is supported mainly by those who are still employed.

Northern communities such as Sudbury, Timmins, Noranda and Kirkland Lake are one-industry communities, whether the mining industry or the forest industry. They have been built by the workers in the industry, not the companies. It is interesting to note that when McIntyre mines left the mining field in Timmins, they gave to the city, for \$1 or a small amount, the McIntyre arena. That was all they gave to the community after having taken out millions and millions of dollars. Hollinger left a ballpark that is now mostly a private golf course. They left Timmins with 800 or 900 houses which soon had to be replaced. The workers built the towns. They carried the tax load and were responsible for the community. A worker spends his lifetime developing a community for an industry. These are the kinds of industries we are allowing to go by the board.

The government can do something about this. Gold, for example, is a useless commodity. We have been told this over the years. For 25 years we subsidized the gold mines because the communities were totally dependent on them. They were maintained in the poorest possible condition. As little as possible was paid for the gold. The government subsidized the difference between the cost of production and the value of the gold. If the government had had enough sense to put it into our treasury instead of the United States treasury, we would have got our investment back tenfold. Gold went from \$35 an ounce to close to \$200. If we stockpile it today, it will probably go to \$200 or more.

With regard to uranium, there was a cartel and the price was raised. However, that is not the answer. There is a world shortage of uranium. Only four countries have any sizeable amounts of uranium. We only stockpiled it against the day when there would be a need for it in the energy field. The same is true of nickel. Everyone says you can get all the nickel you want from the ocean. That has not been proven. The price will have to go considerably higher before it will be mined efficiently from the sea-bed, from salt water. If we stockpile nickel, it will only be against the day we sell it. That is also true of silver, zinc and other commodities. Everyone knows there is a world shortage of natural resources. We have used as

[Mr. Peters.]

much in the past ten years as in the history of the world. It will be the same story in the next ten years. Use of these raw materials is rapidly escalating.

We have not paid enough attention to what will be the result of unemployment. Possibly we will have a war. By killing off all the young people and throwing away our inventory of resources, the problem will be solved. However, a certain number of people in Canada, and I hope it is a larger number than the government seems to think, believe we can solve this problem without much difficulty. In trying to solve our problems we should look to other countries, such as Japan. On many occasions I listened to the former minister of industry, trade and commerce, Hon. Jean-Luc Pépin. For a long time he tried to interest the government in setting up a government trading agency to gather together Canadian production and sell it in an organized fashion. Rather than being sold for money, it could have been sold for goods and services from other countries under a similar type of arrangement.

I do not know what type of blackmail the government used on Mr. Pepin. He left this place by the same process by which most of us leave. In my opinion, he was well on his way to becoming a multimillionaire. He was starting to put into effect ideas which he had been recommending to the government. I am not sure how they ever got him into the two silly positions he has since occupied. He may have done more for Canada if he had established a trading industry which could have been extended nationally because we are not able to trade with other countries. This country is bankrupt. We are borrowing from banks to which we had always loaned money, so that our currency does not collapse. This is true throughout the world. We will not be able to sell for cash; we will have to sell on the basis of getting the most we can in return for what we sell.

There are other solutions. I was interested in one of them. Today, the Solicitor General (Mr. Fox) cried about being misquoted and somebody picking on him. He has very highly paid civil servants who advise him. I suggest that hon. members read Doug Fisher's column "Mandarins prosper under Trudeau". Ten years ago there were three people earning over \$30,000 a year, and he named the three. In the last return, which was made over two years ago, there were 4,522 people earning in excess of \$30,000. I am sure there are now well over 5,000 in that category. The original three jobs are now paying \$50,000, \$60,000 and \$70,000 a year.

There is no hardship here. The only hardship here in Ottawa is whether you speak French or English. If you are bilingual, you are fortunate and can be hired. If you are unilingual, you will not be hired. This is a wealthy community because of the wages that are paid. According to advice we receive, the program is not working.

I mentioned the Solicitor General. Whoever gave him information previously, lied. He had to come to the House and correct that information two or three times. He should fire the head of the RCMP. In my opinion, if we fired the top three echelons in the civil service, everyone would get out and scratch. It seems to me there is not enough scratching. In Sudbury, people realize the difficulties we are in. They know