

the traditional family farm, which has for so long been the backbone of farming in Canada, finds itself in a period of adversity; the need for increased capital, larger structures and bigger enterprises has made it impossible for many individuals who would otherwise be growing food to continue to do so.

I recognize, in spite of the intervention of the hon. member opposite, that there are many others who wish to speak this afternoon so I shall conclude as rapidly as possible. It would seem to me that effort is needed at governmental level to eliminate surpluses or at least to keep them within manageable proportions in order that farmers may not be caught up in the vicious cycle of over-production. As a result of over-production prices fall, and many producers decide not to enter that field. Then, prices rise and production begins again with a rush, as a result of which farmers are caught in what I would call the swinging back and forth of the economic pendulum within the agriculture industry. I am pleased to see some form of stabilization program being established, especially in the grain-oriented economy of the west. It will soon be brought to fruition and implemented by the minister responsible for the Wheat Board and by the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson). Indeed, I should like to see programs of this type extended throughout the industry.

Finally, it seems to me that the whole agriculture industry must think in terms of food, not simply in terms of products. The day may have come when we should be thinking in terms of integrating forward, that is to say, producers integrating into the processing field and then into the consumer marketing field so that the producers are in control of an integrated production line, instead of integrating backward as we have seen happen with processors taking over production, as a result of which pressures have been created adverse to the success of the family farm.

I would commend to hon. members a study known as the Special Study of Agricultural Science in Canada, 1970. One of the sections in this study bears repeating, and it is as follows:

• (3:40 p.m.)

Agriculture has been, and continues to be, the most important primary industry in Canada, contributing major economic and social benefits to Canadian society as a whole. Research and development constitutes the key to its continued progress. However, the organization for research, the philosophy of research, and research itself, must reflect the needs of the agricultural community, and utilize all the relevant disciplines in new forms of integration, if agriculture is to meet fully the problems and opportunities of the immediate future.

Several of the recommendations I should just like to tick off. They include, the establishment of an agricultural centre for bio-economics research and development, a population ecology research centre; a research centre for rural adjustment, an Atlantic resource management centre and a centre for research on cold and drought resistance in plants. This study is well worth the attention of any member who is interested in the agricultural industry, as are the recommendations included in the agricultural task force report.

The Budget—Mr. Orlikow

My main purpose in rising to speak in this debate is to remind the government and all Canadians that, as an industry, agriculture makes a very large contribution to our nation; and that it is to the benefit of all Canadians to have a strong agricultural industry.

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, this is indeed a sad day for Canada. Today we have been informed by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics that 668,000 people were unemployed in the month of January. If one adds to this total the 100,000 people attending manpower training courses, and groups such as Indians and Métis in western Canada who have never been included in labour force statistics, we realize that more than three-quarters of a million people are unemployed today.

The 668,000 people unemployed in January 1971 represent an increase of 130,000 over the month of December 1970, or an increase of 183,000 over January of 1970. If we look at the regional figures, we do indeed see a grim situation, one that should bring a feeling of foreboding to all hon. members, particularly cabinet ministers from the province of Quebec. The figures for Quebec show there has been an increase from January 1970, when 178,000 people in that province were unemployed, to 234,000 in January 1971.

The last four or five months have been amazing months for the province of Quebec. The kidnappings of Mr. Cross and Mr. Laporte, and the latter's subsequent murder, created a quite understandable feeling of fear, indeed—I say this not in a critical way—a feeling of hysteria in that province. Deliberate attempts were made by some members on the government side, particularly the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Marchand), to try to convince the people of Quebec that all separatists are terrorists.

I have no use for, and reject completely, the proposals made by the Parti Québécois for the separation of the province of Quebec from the rest of Canada. But surely the by-election held last week in the provincial constituency of Chambly ought to alarm the government of Canada, and particularly its cabinet ministers from Quebec. Despite the pressure put on the people of Quebec and the attempts to convince them that separatism is not only wrong but in fact subversive, the Parti Québécois held the votes that it received in the general election in Quebec and increased its share by a percentage point or two. Almost one-third of the voters in that constituency voted for the Parti Québécois, and to a large extent I think this can be attributed to the despair and feeling of hopelessness of the ordinary people in the province of Quebec.

In Ontario, our wealthiest province, unemployment increased from 124,000 persons in January 1970 to 201,000 in January 1971. Unemployment among young people between the ages of 14 and 24 increased from 199,000 in January 1970 to 277,000 in January 1971, an increase of over 35 per cent. The actual rate of unemployment as calculated by DBS rose from 6.1 per cent in January 1970 to 8 per cent in January 1971.

The Minister of Finance (Mr. Benson) has expressed happiness at the fact that the seasonally adjusted rate