

Housing

liquidity off the day to day demand call on our international reserve account. As I pointed out, we have created a \$20 billion charge and deficit in that account through the nationalization program and the degree of corporate concentration that has taken place in Canada. Perhaps we could do something new, for instance, such as adopting a Canadian-made policy. We could say, "Look, we will take the demand off that call on our international reserve account by returning to a tax deduction." In the last year, somehow or other we have got away from the 15 per cent holdback. Suppose we removed the demand call on our international reserve account by increasing the tax holdback to, say, 30 per cent on anything under a 60-month call. We would immediately have all that demand paper move to a 60-month call or term.

I hear people say I am dreaming, but the idea comes from debates and arguments with people in the banking industry who have had experience in international banking and know how the Swiss system works. I have also been made aware of what happened in the United States. In order to take the demand off the U.S. system by all the Eurodollars, which were placing a demand and call on the U.S. treasury, the Americans went to Europe with a Roosa bond. They converted the demand call on a good percentage of the Eurodollars. They converted enough into term and futures so that the reserve board was relieved of this day to day pressure.

I have listened to formal economists. I have read books until I am almost blind and need another pair of glasses. I have been privileged to have been in Oxford, England, attending a conference dealing with the implications of low growth for the western world. I have listened to the debates and I have read debates between formal economists. Believe me, Mr. Speaker, they do not have the answers. They are a debating society. They are trying to score points one against the other. We, the politicians, are relying on them to come up with something. We in the political process seem to be waiting for a 1980 or a 1990 John Maynard Keynes who is just not there. Therefore, we will have to open up our minds and take ourselves out of the doctrinaire debate in which the western world is engaging, and start to act on our own to control the Canadian destiny.

I would suggest to the government that it is time it started to look at cooling the immediacy of the call on our foreign exchange reserves. It is time those who borrow heavily abroad were told to convert their call on the Canadian people to 60-month term in order to give us a breathing spell so as to lower interest rates, make the housing in Canada affordable again to the majority of its people, and get our industry working. Coupled with that, it is absolutely essential that somehow or other the people of Canada put enough pressure on the Liberal government to move away from its desire and ability to deliver everything from insulation in your home, to \$7,500 interest free on a rental housing unit, to a grant to industry, the corporate bums who feed from this public trough, from this structure, and have control over the lives of people in our society. Let them cease to suffocate the magic that innovates, creates and allows people to win occasionally with a risk, this risk that creates the jobs and wealth and the ability to compete with other nations.

Until the government moves back to a fiscal policy that delivers rewards and incentives, until it stops spending all its research and development dollars inhouse with universities and the National Research Council, and until the government starts to loosen up and deliver some of that money into the private sector with enough of a tax incentive on incremental increases in research spending, this country will slowly retire, just like the ocean going out at a very low tide. My goodness, the things we were blessed with as we came back from World War II and built this country, the right to a home, to rear and to educate a family, a job if you wanted to work. However, slowly but surely self-reliance was removed from the individual, and government became more and more important in the minds of people who were no longer prepared to work that extra hour, walk that extra mile in order to acquire and protect their right to property. What a tragedy, Mr. Speaker. That is the heart of the housing dilemma in Canada today. The self-reliance of the Canadian people has been taken away by more and more cradle-to-grave care, and people do not discipline themselves to deliver that extra hour or shift of work in order to acquire things.

• (2110)

Another thing which has happened to Canada in this last decade and a half of Liberal rule is that it has lost its desire for excellence. At one time we had a high standard; our engineering was the best in the world. It might still be today. However, we could start from scratch and build ships, build an army and a navy. We could play our part in the world with our heads high and be proud of Canada. The feeling in our hearts, our minds, our spirit and our outlook was just go, go. Canada, over the last 12 years, has slowly but surely and methodically lost its standard of and desire for excellence. We have moved from a standard of living which was the envy of the world, Mr. Speaker. We used to be number three; we are now 13 and sliding fast. You can feel it every day. We changed a simple and basic taxation system, Mr. Speaker, into a complicated monster which threatens us with arbitrary interference in our lives by civil servants and bureaucrats. We have government interference, we have confusion. We have had the decision-making base removed from us in a budget, which was an absolute disaster for the country and the creative elements within it. It has all but removed any chance we had of swinging back and creating jobs. That was it; November 12 did it.

I guess the biggest mistake was when we let them start talking about tax points as being in the possession of the bureaucrat, Mr. Speaker, because now those tax points are theirs. They do not think they should be delivered out so that you and I and others working in widely diverse activities under the rule of law should have the right to take a chance and use that tax point to build wealth, create jobs and do something useful. They think that they, with their desks and their books, have a more divine right to that than I have, and as long as that attitude prevails, I say to you, Mr. Speaker, that this country is at risk because it will deliver us into social unrest.