

The Budget—Mr. Crosbie

all the millions of people employed in Canada. That is a tax increase about which the government has not told the Canadian public. This will add about \$2,600,000,000 to the tax increases which the people who face deindexation will have to stand and bear next year. There is not a word about that in the budget. There is no frankness, there is no honesty, and there is no willingness to tell the public what it faces. There is a pretence that the minister is being bold and that he is asking us all to share equally in the sacrifices. But he does not tell us what the sacrifices really are.

Mr. Taylor: Heaven help Canada.

Mr. Crosbie: I am looking at page 12 of the Budget Papers. It is shocking what the English language has come to. By the way, the government's new expenditures this year add up to \$700 million, not \$2.3 billion. The government is just jiggling its numbers to get to \$2.3 billion. But do you know what one of the savings is that this government has, Mr. Speaker? One of the areas of saving, we are told, is in military pay savings and defence spending; reprofiling. What the hell is defence reprofiling? How do you achieve a saving by reprofiling? Who are we supposed to be? How innocent and stupid are we supposed to be to believe that there is some great saving to come from defence spending reprofiling?

I referred earlier to other examples where deception is practised on the people of Canada. For instance, the \$3,000 grant for housing aid. The government does not say that in order to qualify for this grant of \$3,000 you have to have a 10 per cent downpayment. That is not mentioned in the budget speech given here last night to which the people of Canada were listening. That item is in the Budget Papers where some of the conditions are itemized. Do not look for a \$3,000 grant to buy a new house this year unless you have a 10 per cent downpayment. This is the kind of thing practised throughout that document.

Then we are told there will be great benefits for small business and farmers, and fishermen. The same thing happens with the section on small business. Small business is led to believe that great things will happen. But when you look at the Budget Papers, particularly page 23, and you get down to brass tacks, you will see that the loans and grants promised will only be available if you buy new depreciable property to be used in an active business in Canada. If you are in financial difficulty, you are not in any position to buy new depreciable property or to finance expenditures on scientific research. How many small businesses in this country will rush out to finance expenditures on scientific research in order to get the 4 per cent interest rate reduction which this government promises? When you look at the small print, it is not at all what it seems.

Fishermen were told by the Minister of Finance last night that they were included in all of these wonderful things. They are not. The fishermen are only included, in so far as they are small-business men, if they want to buy depreciable property. How many fishermen in Newfoundland this year can afford to buy depreciable property for which they will get a grant equal

to 4 per cent of the 18 per cent, 20 per cent or 22 per cent interest rate? There is no help for fishermen.

There is a special section for farm financial assistance which gives a little bit to the farmer. Out of \$200 million, the government is allocating \$100 million to the program. But even there it is not what the minister pretends it to be in the budget speech—that tricky and deceiving budget speech in which he specializes. You will see all through this document the practice of deceit and deception by the minister. He cannot give an honest report to the people of Canada. He cannot bare his chest and really share with us. He has no program of recovery. All he can depend upon now is this little pea under the shell game that promises hope for farmers, fishermen, small-business men and people who need housing, but they will be sadly disappointed. Where is the help for the person who has already lost his or her home? Is that \$3,000 grant for a new house going to help the person who has lost his home? Where is the help for the small-business man who is already bankrupt or the small-business man now going bankrupt? What about the farmers who have gone out of business? It is all a charade. There is no hope for recovery.

Then we hear the so-called Minister of Employment and Immigration speak. He is the minister of unemployment. He announces all his job-creation programs. These programs were already announced in Newfoundland. One Member of Parliament put out a household bulletin listing some of the projects before the budget even came down. That is how honest that announcement is. Government members announce things five or six times. They let a few days pass by and they announce programs again. People are supposed to believe that this is a great new burst of funds for job-creation programs.

There is no hope for recovery. This country has no hope for recovery whatsoever with the persons who are now in power—the Prime Minister, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) and the Minister of Finance. I call them the economic horsemen of the apocalypse. Never has a Minister of Finance so abused his trust. He reminds me of the ancient mariner. I want to conclude my speech by quoting from the great poem "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" as follows:

Alone, alone, all, all alone,
Alone on a wide wide sea!
And never a saint took pity on
My soul in agony.

That will be the hallmark of this Minister of Finance. This Minister of Finance, like the ancient mariner, has an albatross around his neck. That albatross is the economic corpse that he has left in this country. It is the economic condition of this country that is around the minister's neck as he goes through the rest of his life "alone, alone on a wide wide sea" with the economic albatrosses that are found in every part of Canada from Newfoundland to British Columbia, to the Yukon to the Northwest Territories. This is a country full of economic damage which the government could have prevented. Even now it will not reverse its course or admit that it is wrong. The only thing it can do is to get out and let the Canadian people put someone in who can do the job, and honest job for them.