

The Budget

Mr. Kilgour: Mr. Speaker, given the sentiments of all sides of the House, you might wish after the House leaders meeting for them to come and meet with you in your chamber. Perhaps we could reconsider the matter of an emergency debate or have it now since there seems to be unanimity in the House.

Mr. Speaker: The position we are in is that for the second day and as a consequence of very close consideration of the matter, the hon. member has twice now applied. I have said that I was not disposed this afternoon to order an emergency debate. I made it very clear yesterday that it might not mean it would not be ordered at some other time.

However, we have an indication now from the House that there is probably a very real possibility of a discussion between House leaders. That is what the parliamentary secretary speaking for the government has indicated. Others have indicated their receptivity to that discussion.

I do not think it would be appropriate for the Speaker to intervene in that discussion at all. That discussion should take place and then we will see where we go from there.

provide realistic support for millions of Canadians who are jobless.

Canadians have a right to know what the government plans to do with the \$160 billion of their hard earned dollars in this budget.

Obviously I feel the budget leaves a lot to be desired. At the very least I find it to be a major disappointment especially for the millions and millions, 2.5 million or whatever the figures are of Canadians who are out looking for work and who are trying to get back to work.

The government's decision to stay the course, so to speak, offers nothing to Canadians who are looking to get back to work. There is little in this spending to inspire business confidence in the government or in the country either.

There is no emphasis put on training or retraining, the ability to train Canadians to make them able to compete for these jobs when and if they do return. There are no adjustment programs for the rapidly increasing numbers of unemployed Canadians. There is no forward looking vision to help Canadians compete in this so-called changing global economic climate.

Some of those who are presently unemployed are part of the hundreds of thousands of Canadians who have lost their jobs because of the free trade deal. Yet government members boast that they are helping our job creating industries, while they still maintain relatively high interest rates and a high dollar policy. That is anti-competitive. This government has created a hostile business environment.

What about the incredibly important area of research and development? That is a must for any country that is going to compete globally. The budget has for all intents and purposes totally ignored training, research and development. The \$230 million over five years for R and D do not make up for the dramatic cuts this government has made in these areas over the past five years.

The elimination of the Science Council is a real disappointment for all Canadians who had hoped for support in science and technology. The Science Council also provided, especially in rural areas, information for the agricultural sector. Once again the agricultural sector suffers.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

THE BUDGET

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Mazankowski that this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government; and the amendment of Mr. Gray (Windsor West) (p.7631).

• (1540)

Mr. Bob Speller (Haldimand—Norfolk): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity to speak in the House today on the government's spending priorities and specifically on the amendment by the hon. member for Windsor West, seconded by our leader, which says that this House condemns the government for its budget's failure to