

Employment

their sense of faith and hope in the country. People sum it up best, I guess, when they ask, "Hey, what is happening to this country?" That is what they ask, and Liberal members opposite are asked the same question. "What is happening to the country?" There has been a feeling of a loss of faith and hope which the government is instilling in people's minds. That is the ultimate sin which the government is creating through its economic policies.

The tragedy of the government's policies with respect to deliberately creating unemployment is that the one thing upon which people have always been able to rely in hard times will be removed; that is, their confidence that the government will be there to help them and not to hurt them. So far, the only news people have been hearing from this government is that it will hurt them some more.

Mr. Kelly: What was your campaign motto in '80, David?

Mr. Crombie: There is the hon. member from Ottawa again—

Mr. Nielsen: No.

Mr. Crombie: He is the hon. member for Scarborough Centre (Mr. Kelly), I am sorry.

Mr. Nielsen: The yappy one.

Mr. Crombie: The hon. member might want to spend a little more time—

Mr. Kelly: I do.

Mr. Crombie: —in that riding, because I know that area extremely well; in fact, I will be speaking there next week. That hon. member will not be coming back because those people know that he supports those policies and why they harm them. I hope he will at least go to see those constituents rather than stand in the back and yell at other people.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): I regret to interrupt the hon. gentleman, but there was an agreement earlier in this House that each hon. member would speak for only 20 minutes. If he wishes to continue, it will have to be with the unanimous consent of the House.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Is that agreed? It is so ordered. The hon. member for Rosedale.

Mr. Crombie: I just wanted to say that that was as good an example as any I know of why people are angry with the government's policy. It is because they do not have any faith that the government will do anything other than attempt to shift the blame on to someone else. It is time the government changed.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I want to say to the House that we welcome this opportunity to be able to exchange views and debate this issue which is one of great concern and significance in this country.

I was very pleased to note that the hon. member for Rosedale (Mr. Crombie) admitted at the beginning of his speech, contrary to the statements made by many of his colleagues, that this is not an isolated event which is happening only in Canada, but that it is part of a malaise which is affecting the entire industrial world. Unemployment rates in the United States are higher than ours; they are higher in Great Britain, they are higher in France, they are higher in Italy and they are higher in Belgium. Simply, all it points out is the ability of the industrial world to adjust to many of the economic shocks which have gone through our system in the last several years.

As we well know, we are in need of new approaches and of serious re-examination of many of our basic principles. That is why I think it is probably time that hon. members opposite also examined their basic principles, because if the Canadian people know that it is not only a matter of a made-in-Canada problem but that it is a worldwide problem, they also know that hon. members of the opposition have been offering very contradictory advice as to what to do about it. The kind of advice we hear from the hon. member for Rosedale is quite contrary to what we hear from the hon. member for York-Peel (Mr. Stevens), who says, "Cut back and restrain, do not stimulate and do not spend;" while the hon. member for Rosedale says quite the opposite.

Mr. Crombie: I got it from him.

Mr. Axworthy: What we are really faced with is a basic illogicality.

Miss MacDonald: An illogicality of government.

Mr. Axworthy: Because both the hon. member for Rosedale and the Conservative Party are saying it is a worldwide problem, and then all of a sudden it comes around to being our fault as a government. I think it is a fault which is shared by many in our society.

Miss MacDonald: Step aside if you can't take it on as minister.

Mr. Axworthy: I would like to ask the hon. lady, the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands (Miss MacDonald), how she will explain her party's stand on new foreign policy in South Africa. It would be very interesting to hear what they have to say about that.

Miss MacDonald: Explain yours on El Salvador!

Mr. Axworthy: The fact is that it is a serious problem, but I think what is important to recognize is that many things are being done to solve it. I think the basic flaw in the statement of the hon. member for Rosedale is that he is not prepared to