being helped, whereas, at the present time, they no longer have enough to live. Nowadays, people lack the necessities of life. Those who enjoy a decent standard of living have to borrow money at the rate of 10, 12 and even 24 per cent. The people live on borrowed money and get deeper into debt every day.

The financiers who charge interests of 10, 12 or 24 per cent get richer all the time, in order to have more money to loan the people and get them deeper into debt, in short, to reduce to nothing any progress they make from day to day. In fact, that progress, under the form of savings, goes into the pockets or the bank accounts of those who control credit, because such people have enough power to cash in on any development. They are exploiting developments for their own benefit and at the people's expense.

Let us look at the reports of the financial tycoons. They are making $\$1\frac{1}{2}$ billion or $\$1\frac{1}{4}$ billion in profits which they take from the people's pockets, from labour, from people's savings and properties. They appropriate all that to themselves. The government has no say in the matter. It is an accomplice. It only gets deeper involved in this shocking barbarity which throttles the people and deprives them of a living.

It is claimed, as I said a while ago, that people have two or three cars, but all those cars are financed by loans at 10, 15 and even 24 per cent interest. Government has nothing to say about that. There is talk of inflation while people are destitute. Has the Minister of Finance understood the meaning of the word "inflation"?

The cost of living is increasing while it should be going down, as it would if we had a government able to balance the economy. Our government is the first responsible for the rise in the cost of living with its taxes of all kinds. This is what it is doing when it should cause the cost of living to go down by lowering, for instance, the interest rate. There is some talk of fixing prices, of fixing this or that, but no mention is made of a ceiling on interest rates. Those rates are allowed to rise and they want to fix prices on the grounds that industries or businessmen are taking advantage of the people.

Tradesmen do not take undue advantage of the people. There are some exceptions, but in general, people are not exploited by industrialists but rather by finance and governments at every level.

Indeed, provincial governments are allowed to borrow money at a rate of interest of 9 or 10 per cent and the federal government refuses to interfere. They let provincial and municipal governments borrow money on foreign markets and give away our inheritance. Everything is handed over to foreigners, because the government does not want to assume its responsibilities which, after all, are not so dreadful.

The federal government could authorize the provincial governments to borrow on the basis of the administration charges instead of having them pay a 10 per cent interest as a result of which, provincial governments are deep into debt. They overtax the people and this goes beyond all logical, normal and social bounds.

Everything is bungled on account of this system. This bungling extends throughout Canada. The economy is unbalanced and the more we apply the old solutions, the more we are unbalancing our system which is on the road to ruin. And if we bankrupt the people, our governments will also be bankrupt.

They said: "We will levy taxes and the citizens will borrow at any rate of interest to pay them." Who cares. As the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis) said a while ago: "Money does not grow on trees"; but it does not grow either in the taxpayers' pocket. Taxpayers are compelled to borrow to obtain some and then, they run into debt which they cannot repay. It is on those loans that the government is levying taxes. Taxes are levied on debts and loans and nothing else. The government could find other sources of income to finance its requirements and run the economy. The more the system will be applied, the more taxes we will have to impose, because as we go along, federal and provincial deficits get bigger.

There is an attempt to balance federal and provincial budgets by upsetting the budget of individuals. Is that a solution, Mr. Finance Minister? Tell us. Do your bills and budget contain any solution? Are there reasonable, practical proposals? No, there are not any. The proposals that are made will continue to upset the economy and increase the poverty of the people who are already more than poor, destitute, in debt up to the hilt, and already paying three times more than they can afford.

It is even impossible to pay the interests on debts. The federal government is unable to pay the interests on its debt. Individuals cannot pay the interests on their own debts, and interests on government debts, at all levels. It is impossible. That cannot work.