

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is there unanimous consent for the Hon. Member for Ottawa-Carleton (Mr. Turner) to answer the last question?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I am sorry, there is not unanimous consent. The Hon. Member for Dollard (Mr. Weiner).

Mr. Gerry Weiner (Dollard): Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Bill C-11. I have been hearing since early this morning about the devastation that we have caused and the way we have wreaked havoc on the entire community. All we have asked for is a time for reflection to consider what has taken place. Since 1968, the good old days when we used to run surpluses at the end of each budgetary year, we have somehow been able to change the whole pattern of development. We are now running massive deficits approaching some \$35 billion. We changed this pattern with the assistance of many Finance Ministers all of whom talked about restraint.

Deficits and jobs are of grave concern. I come from a riding that is 50 per cent ethnic in its nature. These are people who have come to Canada, many first generation newcomers from different lands. We have representatives of 39 ethnic communities. We have many visible minorities. They cannot quite seem to grasp what is going on. They came here filled with high hopes and aspirations, expecting a land of milk and honey. But now we have massive deficits and there are no jobs. We cannot keep spending as if there were no tomorrow. At some point we have to cause an interruption in that rapid growth that has been taking place, one that would run us right off the map.

A recent study in Ville St. Laurent, one of the two important cities that comprise my riding, showed that in some 100 ethnic families with an average of 5.2 members per family there was an unemployment rate of 72 per cent. This is appalling. They live in abominable conditions, conditions that are sub-human, and they have an income of \$1,100 a month either through welfare or whatever other source. They want answers and they want answers quickly. Certainly they want job creation, the young people, the older people, and the rest.

I think it was a good beginning. We came to grips with the deficit. We are saying that before we allow any further growth in the deficit, let us control it, let us stop it. Let us take a look at what we are doing. Let us look at the high unemployment and inadequate investment. We must take a look at the erosion of confidence that has taken place and all of the personal hardship. How are we going to restore some confidence into this community? What are we going to do?

We have to begin with a proper program of restraint. I heard about the devastation we are causing. I can only assure the Hon. Member who has brought this matter to our attention that everything I have heard so far in the first few months is that everyone will be treated with fairness. We cut \$1

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million from the budget of the National Film Board, which caused some hysteria. We asked the CBC to take a cut of \$75 million, and the CBC instantly wanted to cut out some vital program.

I think those of us who ran hard this past year ran hard so that we can get here to create some accountability and responsibility in government. What we are really saying is: don't affect the services. Let us look at the way these services are being administered. Let us come to grips with the large bureaucracies, those 300 or 400 agencies that have never had any accountability and whose books have never been opened to public scrutiny.

Mr. Benjamin: Like the Prime Minister's Office.

Mr. Weiner: It is about time that those things were made a matter of public record. There are people in my community who have trouble finding work and paying taxes. In general, one out of six heads of households is out of work. They do not understand how we can continue to spend as if there were no tomorrow. Therefore, let us control our spending, put it on hold, while we consider ways of putting more people back to work. I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that the business community has already shown tremendous interest and confidence in what we have begun to do. This will be shown by a renewed investment in our community by the creation of jobs.

As some Hon. Members will recall, Parliament has already granted borrowing authority amounting to \$24.6 billion for the present year, an amount based on the previous government's requirements of \$25.5 billion. However, we inherited financial requirements of \$29.9 billion. This sorry plight, the mess left us, requires us to have supplementary borrowing authority for the current fiscal year. In addition, the new expenditures and the tax initiatives which the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) announced bring our projected requirements to \$29.2 billion, \$6 billion higher than estimated last summer.

What we are trying to do is to become a little more cost efficient. We want to make sure that there is an importance to what we are doing. We want to minimize the changes taking place in the community. There is a need to put our house in order. We have to limit the debt in order to do that. We have to reverse our direction and what effect it has had on our confidence and growth.

We have come through an era where government has played a very implicit role in the handling and management of business. It has been too involved. Many of us would like to see a little less government involvement. We would like to think that we can somehow get the government out of our bedrooms and put the initiative back into the private sector. Small businessmen are already burdened with far too much red tape and far too much bureaucracy. There are people who are innovative. Some of us are prepared to take risks. We have the competitive spirit. We feel the reins should be loosened somehow. This is the kind of view that is being taken in this reflective period.

What we promised through the summer campaign and "the time for change" on which we all ran, is that we would be in