

The Budget

work but just cannot find any work". Yet the government cut 500 white collar jobs this week.

The food banks are now serving 18,000 people a month in the Ottawa area. At the Shepherds of Good Hope Centre, which is in my riding, some 200 people a day receive food.

I want to quote from a recent report called "Overdrawn at the Food Banks: The Hunger Crisis in Ottawa—Carleton". It drives the point home: "Many emergency food banks first opened their doors in the 1980s to act as temporary measures. Instead they have become permanent. This is unacceptable in a country like Canada. There are three main reasons why demand remains high at emergency food programs: high unemployment, lack of affordable housing and inadequate social assistance allowances".

The recession has had an impact on my community, a terrible impact on people, and I ask this House to do something to help, to assist and to care for Canadians who at this time have no jobs, who are asking us to look after this situation and correct it as soon as possible.

Mr. Greg Thompson (Carleton—Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, in response to the member for Ottawa—Vanier I want a bit of clarification. I believe he mentioned in reference to the finance minister a short-term fix. I do not think the finance minister ever ascribed to the short-term fix. The party the member represents is the master of the short-term fix which has created the problems that have made it so difficult for this government to operate.

The accumulation of the mountain of debt which besieges us today is really the problem. I quote from the minister's speech of two days ago when he delivered his budget. In reference to Canadians he said: "They do not believe that governments can borrow us out of the trouble that governments have borrowed us into. They know that higher debt means higher taxes and they want an end to rising taxes".

I question the member on that because it obviously does not work. Over the years we have proven that the accumulation of more debt just aggravates the problems we already have as a nation.

It goes back to the question of who pays the bills. We know who pays the bills. The Canadian taxpayers pay and

they are sick and tired of paying. They want out from underneath it. The only way we can get out from underneath it is to work our way out, to pay off the debt.

The member made reference to articles which he quoted from various papers. I want to quote an article and maybe he can respond to it. *The Financial Post* interviewed Maureen Farrow, an executive with Coopers & Lybrand, yesterday. The newspaper reported: "During a post-budget breakfast, Maureen Farrow, the firm's chief economist, commended Mazankowski for presenting a budget that encourages economic recovery, government efficiency and increased competitiveness in the manufacturing sector".

She went on to say: "The reduced surtax rate on personal income tax will put as much as \$500 million in consumers' hands in 1992-93". She also said: "The budget's emphasis on thinning the government and cutting the deficit sets a whole new tone for provincial budgets over the coming months". Possibly the member could allude to that article and place it into perspective in the big budget picture.

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, surely we could allude to the present government's budget.

The budget demonstrated to some of us and to the majority of Canadians that the government does not understand the fundamental problem that is facing Canada at this time. Instead of addressing the fundamental mismanagement that has been going on in this country the government throws a couple of crumbs out there and thinks that Canadians are going to say: "Thank you very much". They will not say: thank you very much. They will boot you out, I hope.

Look at the green plan, \$75 million was cut from it. The Canadian Race Relations Foundation and the Canadian Heritage Languages Institute, the continued existence of which would underline the government's commitment to a multicultural Canada, are out. That is Reform Party policy again.

The government is indeed very concerned and very worried about the Reform Party, as is shown by most of the things it has done. It has cut social housing. The co-operative housing program, which was started in 1971 in my riding of Ottawa—Vanier when the first co-op was built in my riding, was zapped. It took it out. Social housing has gone by the door.