

On the other hand when we try to reason that it will create jobs we have to create smart jobs that will be maintained other than by federal government grants. That is one of the reasons why the former minister of defence, who was always pleading for Quebec, was saying: "We need this business in Quebec. We need our booty". I was always against that because all of Canada needs jobs. We need sustained jobs and not jobs that depend upon the government handing out gifts to different contractors, even if they do come from Quebec. I do not accept these kinds of make work programs for equipment that we do not need to do that particular job.

In terms of the rescue aspects of these helicopters, I have seen reports that the prop-wash from these helicopters when rescuing someone in an ocean environment would actually drown them. Do not tell me that these are needed, either for rescues or for jobs.

**Mr. Francis G. LeBlanc (Cape Breton Highlands—Canso):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to participate in this debate today. I want to compliment my colleague, the hon. member for York North, on his very fine opening speech in this debate. I understand I will be sharing my time with my colleague, the hon. member for Ottawa South.

Next month Canadians will cross a dubious milestone. In April Canada will have spent three years mired in the grip of recession. Even if we accept the brave pronouncement of Mr. Philip Cross of Statistics Canada earlier this year that the Canadian recession is over there is not much to cheer about; not for the 1.5 million individuals who according to Statistics Canada's labour force survey last month were unemployed; not for the 76,139 businesses and individuals who last year slid into bankruptcy, a figure which is 50 per cent higher than in the worst year of the 1981-82 recession.

It has been said that Canadians emerged from the 1981-82 recession lean and mean. If Canadians emerged from that recession lean and mean, then they are coming out of the present one plain scared. The recession has not been like the others. The world has changed and we are in a new game.

### *Supply*

Canadians feel the ground shifting under their feet. Our resource industries, the fishery, agriculture, forestry, and mining no longer generate the kind of secure export jobs they did in the past. The manufacturing sector has been battered. According to the investment firm Wood Gundy, some 363,000 manufacturing jobs were lost between April 1989 and February 1992. In industries from steel to forest products to the fishery to the auto industry, across the whole range of the economy, Canadians have seen their jobs disappear.

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These job losses have not been temporary. They have been permanent. Jobs that seemed secure are now in jeopardy. What people used to need to know to make it no longer applies. Canadians who have not already lost their jobs are fearful that they will be next. Businesses that have survived for decades have bitten the dust of bankruptcy or are in trouble.

The federal government and the provincial governments are paralyzed by debt, a disturbing amount of which is owed to foreign bankers. The tough medicine of the budgets of Newfoundland and Saskatchewan last week played more to the bond analysts at Moodys and at Standard and Poor in New York than they did to their own electorate. The budgets of the other provinces will likely follow suit.

Canadians are hoarding, waiting for the next blow to strike. Businesses are not investing. Consumers are not spending. The Canadian economy is not growing. This government, transfixed by its three-year ill timed obsession to wring the last bit of inflation out of the Canadian economy has shown itself incapable of acting in an imaginative and creative way to get the Canadian economy moving again and reposition our economy to take advantage of the new opportunities. There are new opportunities that our changed world presents.

During the last election campaign the Prime Minister boasted to Canadians that the Conservative government was best able to "manage change". We will undoubtedly hear that phrase repeated again and again in the next few months in the mating dance that has been contrived by his party *apparatchiks*, and that word, as the leading contender knows, is Russian for "hacks", to coronate the Prime Minister's successor.