

Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements

these are the facts. Indeed, the Hon. Member for Bellechasse (Mr. Blais) is here. The Marine Industries workers in Sorel met with the Minister. They met with the Minister, and they would like to have . . . because their industry was designated—they would like to avail themselves of the program that we used to call in popular language—I understand that Minister is somewhat high-browed—but people who are working at Marine Industries, the fellow who used to be a welder would like at age 57 or 58 to benefit from the previous program. But they cannot. Those people, they are the youngest ones, are forced into unemployment because you have ended that program. They would like to claim entitlement to the previous program. But then you say about your new program—and Lamoureux, Chairman of the Marine Industries workers' union, went to see you, but the program you are offering only provides for ridiculous amounts. Less than the Quebec welfare. It is therefore unacceptable for this Government to brag about helping senior workers. Your performance is bad. You were one of the Ministers, one of the Members who supported the Government move to de-index old age security pensions. You said nothing when you cut, when you took unemployment insurance away from those workers who had gone to an early retirement in order to help the younger ones, but there again you are penalizing people in the future.

So you are in no position to give any lesson to anybody with respect to senior citizens.

Mr. Cadieux: Madam Speaker, on a point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): The Hon. Minister of Labour (Mr. Cadieux) on a point of order.

Mr. Cadieux: First, Madam Speaker, I prefer keeping my mouth shut to speaking and having nothing to say. As for being high-browed, Madam Speaker, I view this as an additional asset.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): The Hon. Member for Bellechasse and Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council (Mr. Blais).

Mr. Blais: Madam Speaker—

Mr. Malépart: On a point of order, Madam Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): No. The Minister of Labour has already risen on a point of order.

Mr. Malépart: On a point of order, Madam Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): On a point of order, the Hon. Member for Montreal—Sainte-Marie (Mr. Malépart).

Mr. Malépart: Madam Speaker . . . Either you sit down, or I will. One of us must sit down.

With regard to the point of order, Madam Speaker, the Minister says that there is nothing wrong with being an

intellectual, but it is sometimes important for intellectuals to think about the people.

Mr. Cadieux: Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of Order.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): The Hon. Minister of Labour rises on a point of Order.

Mr. Cadieux: Madam Speaker, I said that it was an additional asset meaning you can still have others.

Mr. Malépart: Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of Order.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Order! Order, please! I am sure that both sides of the House realize that these are not points of order. In fact, only two and a half or three minutes remain to the question and comment period. I will recognize the Hon. Member for Bellechasse, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Blais).

Mr. Blais: Madam Speaker, I have a comment to make on this because they are just trying to—

Mr. Malépart: I woke you up.

Mr. Blais: Yes, you did. You wake us up or you think you do with this nonsense, but when you talk about job creation, and about Bellechasse—well, I am not near Sorel, being a 175 miles away from it. At least, to begin with, you could check your geography. Since you are referring to Bellechasse, some 1,100 jobs were created over the past few months to replace the 2,500 which had been lost during the terrible time of your administration. I want to tell the Hon. Member for Montreal—Sainte-Marie that was the reason why Bellechasse was a designated area. But today, it could no longer be recognized as a designated area, because the economic situation has greatly improved.

All you have managed to do is to spread fear in the Montreal area. The Minister of Labour has just said so.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): I urged the Hon. Member for Bellechasse to address the Chair when talking to his colleagues.

Mr. Blais: I am sorry, Madam Speaker. It is easy sometimes, because of a bad influence to forget.

In the footwear industry alone, which he mentioned a while ago, nearly 1,000 jobs, approximately 900 in Quebec, have been created by the Taurus Company. You should listen instead. Those are statistical data. There are 200 in Montreal, 200 also in the riding, Madam Speaker. These are employment figures, some 40,000 in Quebec, 700,000 in Canada. That is what you should talk about, and there are several also in the Montreal area. With regard to the shipyard issue which you raised, you are hellbent on frightening everybody; you were never concerned with rationalization. What did the Hon. Member for Winnipeg—Assiniboia (Mr. McKenzie) tell you this afternoon? He stated very clearly that your philosophy and that of your bosom buddies from the New Democratic