

And down at the bottom, the total between 1986 and 1992 will exceed the \$2 billion mark. But who will have to provide that kind of money? The workers and the employers, especially in the small and medium business sector.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for this opportunity to express the disappointment of all those people, the fact that they are 110 per cent disappointed with this Government's actions.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): Questions or comments. The Hon. Member for Humber—Port au Port—St. Barbe (Mr. Tobin).

● (2020)

[English]

Mr. Tobin: Mr. Speaker, I rise to say that seldom have we witnessed in this Chamber a more eloquent or visionary speech than that given by my colleague, the Member for Mount Royal (Mrs. Finestone).

Mr. Blaikie: You weren't even here.

Mr. Tobin: Oh, indeed I was. I was listening to every word. I was captivated, not only by the Member's description of the problems which befall our health and educational institutions today, but by her concern and vision for the future. Too many Members in this place are preoccupied with today's or tomorrow's headlines. Too few have any vision of the kind of society we want to build in the country. Many of us think in terms of preserving that which already exists. Too few of us understand that we are still building a Canadian society. I appreciated that refreshing dimension of the Hon. Member's remarks.

Will the Member share with Members of Parliament her insights into the kind of society she sees Canada evolving into if the philosophy of this Bill of passing the burden of health and education on to the provinces is expanded into other areas and plays a role in the shaping of our society? Perhaps she could share with us as well her vision of the kind of society we are capable of becoming if we can put behind us the bottom line accountant's mentality of how a country is served by its Government.

Mrs. Finestone: Mr. Speaker, I thank my hon. colleague. I find the challenge almost a *défi de taille, comme on dit*. Although I have not the wisdom to fulfil the Member's request, I have the conviction that if we do not expend our energies constructively in the areas of post-secondary education and care and concern we are going to return ourselves to the three monkeys' world: see not, hear not, and speak not. We will see not because we cannot bear to look. We will hear not because the sound will be too harsh and too hard on the heart to hear. We will speak not because we should be struck dumb and speechless.

We live in the most beautiful of lands. We are blessed with a vastness of space and a beauty of surrounding that is beyond belief. Everyone of us has had the opportunity to travel this

Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act

land and make comparisons to other places. Believe me, we are many times blessed. We will throw away that heritage and lose the advance potential if we do not place our efforts and energies where they will be the most productive in the long run.

I thank the Hon. Member for mentioning the eyes of the Finance Minister (Mr. Wilson). I often think that all I see there is a very handsome superman grin with eyeballs that look like dollar bills. That is not the society that this country wants and it is not the society that elected the Government to office. The Government was not elected to undertake undercuts which will lower the quality of our lives and, more particularly, the lives of our children and grandchildren by cutting back on the primary areas which are the measure of a nation: health, the well-being of the elderly, the sick and the infirm, and the well-being of our children and their futures.

The place to invest is in the minds of our young people, in training, education and retraining to the highest level in the world. We will then be competitive. We will then not have to worry about whether we negotiate sectorally or bilaterally, or whether we are continentalists or internationalists. We will be the finest and the best in two languages which we should all speak. We must respect the multicultural tapestry and background which is the beauty of this land.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. There have been discussions among the Parties. Normally we would sit until 10.20 this evening in order to make up for the time which was taken up by the Minister's statement and the responses to it. We have decided that, in view of the long sittings, it would be more appropriate to adjourn the House at 10 p.m. and go immediately to the adjournment debate at that time. Those parties who are involved in the adjournment debate have been notified and the Parliamentary Secretaries will be here to reply. I think you will find there is agreement for that among the Parties.

Mr. Guilbault (Saint-Jacques): Mr. Speaker, I rise on this point of order. At the request of the Government we have checked with our Members. One of them who was prepared to speak in the adjournment debate has decided to wait until tomorrow to comply with the request of the Government. We are, therefore, agreeable.

● (2030)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): As usual the House has shown great kindness. Agreed and so ordered.

Resuming debate.

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill): Mr. Speaker, this evening I would like to set out the history and future of medicare, one of the programs which the decrease in funding we are debating tonight is all about. Many years ago the righteous energy of many Canadians, angered at a society in