April 10, 1970

COMMONS DEBATES

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): The ment Starts displaced parson across the way does not seem Since 1964." to understand English.

Mr. McBride: You are a nice fellow at heart.

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): He will continue to emit sounds while seated and then get up a little later to try to deliver a sermon, something which he did not seem to do so successfully in past years. In any event, in reply to the member from somewhere— McBride is the name but one sees him so rarely here that it is difficult to know where he is from—

Mr. McBride: I am here every day.

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): In any event, I will say to him in reply that a fellow by the name of Eisenhower, a great man, once said that in politics one should take everything seriously except oneself. I commend that to him because later he will have an opportunity to speak if he wishes and we will be very glad to listen to one of his crazy sermons.

Mr. McBride: I have been trying to be nice to you.

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): As someone once said in this House: When you are going after big game you are not dissuaded by rabbit tracks, which seem to be appearing across the way. Mr. Speaker smiles and nods his head, so I am sure he feels the way I do.

Mr. Lewis: You cannot drag in the Speaker; that is very improper.

• (12:50 p.m.)

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): May I say, in rising to say a few words on this motion, that we find the economy to be in great trouble, although I am sure that members across the way will not agree with us on that. We have, to put it mildly, serious inflation. We have, to put it mildly, serious inflation. We have a growing balance of payments problem. Taxes have increased to the point where Canadians are paying the highest they have ever paid in peacetime. Then, of course, we are paying farmers not to grow wheat, and this again creates great unemployment. We are paying them not to grow wheat, despite the fact that there is so much starvation in the world today.

We are confronted with news headlines like, "Rising Jobless Find Government No Help," in the Ottawa *Citizen* and "Unemploy-

Alleged Failure of Employment Policies Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): The ment Starts to Mount"; "Jobless Highest

Mr. Comeau: And "Cosmos Closing Down."

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Yes, firms closing down all across the country. Recently a plant in Cornwall closed down, as did the Dunlop Tire plant in Toronto, throwing 600 out of work in one case and I believe 800 out of work in the other. We have a plant closing at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, or at least Cosmos is talking about closing, and the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce «Mr. Pepin) has not given us a policy with respect to these situations.

Mr. McBride: Oh, oh.

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): I. Mr. Speaker, would gladly yield the floor if this supercillious creature across the way, the disjointed parson, has something to say. Perhaps he will say it a little later. If we are going to listen to his interjections, I call on Your Honour to ensure order in the House. It would appear he likes to remain seated on whatever little brains he has, and yak at the same time. There is nothing comes out of the uppermost part of him, so it would appear it is all coming from the other direction. So, Mr. Speaker, if I could prevail on you, would you try to straighten out this poor individual? Of course, he is an expert. He has been here for a long period of time, and he knows the rules so well.

Mr. Comeau: He is a Liberal as well.

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): That explains it.

In any event, Mr. Speaker, I would think that the government, in view of what we see transpiring from day to day, have such a disregard for our long-cherished parliamentary process that they may well be wondering why the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Broadbent) would have such gall as to bring in a motion condemning them for their failure to bring in a program to provide full employment. For once, I might be tempted to agree with the government because, while we engage in this debate here, we know that the government already stand condemned of this charge by the people of Canada. All members of this House meet people everyday who are complaining about, condemning and damning the actions of this government.

On the one hand, the government has virtually put a plan into force to create unemployment in order to combat inflation. I do not