

*Borrowing Authority Act*

is a necessity. Distances are long and the CAA estimates that 50 per cent of Canadians need a car to go to work. The 3 per cent surtax on personal income tax will have a direct impact on families in our area, especially the low and medium income families.

Wednesday, in his Budget, Minister Wilson talked about reducing the deficit by \$4 billion but, Mr. Speaker, people quickly realized that they will be paying directly for that reduction, it will be done at the expense of ordinary Canadians and of low and medium income families. It is very unfair and really inexplicable to announced good sounding measures when they are, actually, going to cost an arm and a leg to Canadian consumers.

Not only will the Budget and the Estimates be costly for our people but they do not foresee anything encouraging as far as employment is concerned. Even though the Minister of Finance boasted a reduction in the unemployment rate, that reduction has not been felt in New Brunswick.

I wish they could tell me they created jobs in New Brunswick, and I also wish they could tell me where they created those jobs. But it just is not so. Listen to this: The unemployment rate in New Brunswick increased from 15 to 15.3 per cent last January. As far as employment goes, the Government does not have much to brag about. Especially since the Estimates include a reduction of \$100 million in the Job Creation Program, compared with last year. One hundred million dollars less. Mr. Speaker, in my riding, the amounts available were already been cut this year. Last year the Canada Works Programs had \$3 million and this has now been cut to \$1.5 million, and we now have to share the money among three electoral districts. This is terrible!

As far as young people are concerned, components of the Challenge '86 Program were also cut this year. In New Brunswick, under the component "Summer Employment/Experience Development", we received or we are about to receive \$900,000 less. Almost a million dollars! And the Government says it doesn't matter. And in the same breath, it says it is going to create jobs for young people. They say it takes about \$2,000 to create one job. Well, \$900,000 means 450 summer jobs less next summer for us. And these cuts come after the Katimavik Program was cut and the Minister of State (Youth) (Mrs. Champagne) had told us the money was going to be redeployed in other programs. If that is the way you redeploy this money, if you treat everybody like you treat them in New Brunswick, the young people of this country are not about to resolve their problems.

I am very disappointed that even the Budget failed to mention the very tenuous situation in which young people find themselves today. It contains no proposals for assisting them. There is no reference to them anywhere at all. It is a regrettable oversight that will cost us very dearly in the years to come. The young people, like everybody else in New Brunswick, expected a lot better from this Conservative Govern-

ment. They hoped that the Government would reconsider its position making early retirees with pensions ineligible for unemployment insurance benefits. Again, the rule change in the case of early retirees has been viewed as a cheap shot. This was and still is indeed a cheap shot. Nowhere in the new Budget is there a mention of this rule change.

I can go on and talk about what the Government has done for Atlantic fishermen. Again, it has done absolutely nothing for them, except increase their cost burden for the next few years. It is even proposing users' fees. For instance, in its estimates, the funds made available to repair wharfs and dig chanel around them are clearly inadequate. What is even worse is the Government's recommendation that the cost for the services should be paid by fishermen. They can hardly make ends meet and the Government would like them to incur additional costs. It is a shame!

The fishery industry in New Brunswick is very important, just as it is in any other Atlantic province.—I thank you for signaling that I only have two minutes left, Mr. Speaker.—If you allow me to continue, I should like to mention also that the boats subsidy program has been completely eliminated. The Minister used as an excuse that this program had become obsolete. Mr. Speaker, I should like the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. Siddon) to come and explain to the fishermen in my riding that this program had entirely lost its usefulness.

As for regional economic development, the Estimates indicate a reduction of 11 per cent this year. A further drop of some 17 per cent is slated for 1987-88. Combined with the 15 per cent reduction we saw in 1985-86, these cumulative cutbacks mean that this department's budget will be cut by 44 per cent. In fact, the departmental estimates will be cut by \$160 million in 1986-87 as compared with last year. And they have the audacity to tell us they want to help the regions, that they are concerned about the regions—

Given that loss for the economic development of our regions, the Government has decided to provide funds for a program called "Atlantic Enterprise".

As you know, Mr. Speaker, we have many legends in the Atlantic. There are tales of ghost ships. Each area has its own legend. But here a brand new legend has just been created: a ghost ship for the whole Atlantic region.

Of course, I could not, in the few minutes allocated to me, speak about all the cutbacks provided in these Estimates, about all the ways in which the people of the Atlantic will be affected. But it is clear from all this, Mr. Speaker, that the tax burden is not distributed in an equitable fashion.