

The Budget—Mr. Barrett

Hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner) who decided to abandon his Bay Street roots and tell it straight to Canadian people, and the people who knifed him most were not the Tories but his own Party. That is the end of that kind of reform talk in the Liberal Party, you can believe me.

Let us take a look at—

An Hon. Member: What absolute rubbish.

Mr. Barrett: What absolute rubbish? I suffered under Liberal Governments. I know what I am talking about. I have seen Liberal Governments. At least the Tory Party has less guile than the Liberal Party does. It does not make any mistake about it. No mistake about it, it is serving its masters without any complication or soft words. The Liberal Party had always adopted a policy of being left when it is out of office and right when it is in office.

• (1300)

Let us take a look at what is going on for these untaxed corporations and see how their senior leadership is responding to the need for restraint. I want to tell you, my friends, the senior executives have shown a willingness to set an example for the Canadian taxpayer. Let us take a look at the business finance section of *The Financial Post* dated April 10, 1989. This is how they show restraint when they set up their Chamber of Commerce meetings and stand up and say: "Oh, we have to tighten our belts. Oh, times are tough here in Canada. Oh, yes, we workers cannot ask for more wages. Oh, yes, if you take too much money home then it will just hurt the economy." Let us take a look at the who's who in the \$500,000 club in this time of restraint. Do you think they give to the food bank? What was their charity donation to the United Appeal, Mr. Speaker? Here is Mr. Drabinsky, Cineplex-Odeon Corporation who is now earning \$3,868,000 a year. The change in last year alone was a 28 per cent increase in salary. There is a great sacrifice. At least he did not take a 35 per cent increase.

Then we go down the list here and let us take a look at another one. Here is a good one. D. J. Phillips, chairman and president, chief executive officer of INCO. He earns \$1,993,734. Poor baby, he only got a 12 per cent increase last year. Let us hear it for poor Mr. Phillips. He was hosed.

Let us go down the list some more. Here is another one. William James, chairman and president and chief executive officer of Falconbridge, a company not on our

Party's donation list. He earned \$1,689,000, a change last year of a 28 per cent increase. I go down this whole list and see 12 per cent, 13 per cent increases. Here is a dandy. Here is a guy, Edward MacDonald, executive vice-president of the Seagram Company, salary, \$788,000. He got only a 30 per cent increase in his salary last year.

These are the same industrial barons who control that Government over there, who pay for this Government's election and, at the same time, can hardly take their snoot out of the trough and go for overwhelming increases. They have the unmitigated gall to tell workers and single parents in this country: "We cannot afford to give you any more services. We cannot afford to give you a raise in pay".

Mr. Rodriguez: They all vote Tory.

Mr. Barrett: This is the most crass commitment by any Government toward the power elite.

Two minutes, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Yes.

Mr. Barrett: That is longer than this Government has to stay in office.

I want to read a list to you, in summary, from Statistics Canada of what is really going on in this country based on your own statistics, Sir. I will use my last two minutes to peel off some of these important discoveries.

Three million, six hundred and eight-nine thousand people, or 14 per cent of women, men and children in this country live below the poverty line. Eight hundred and fifty-one thousand, or 12 per cent of all families or 34 per cent of unattached Canadians, have low incomes. Newfoundlanders have the highest poverty rates—22 per cent of all Newfoundlanders—21 per cent of the province's families and 49 per cent of the unattached individuals are poor.

Ontario has the lowest poverty rates, 10 per cent of all persons, 8 per cent of all families. Four in ten Canadian families are headed by women, 38 per cent are poor compared to only one in ten families led by men. No programs for women, cancellation of day care which forces them into poverty levels that the Government's own statistics show are totally inequitable. There are over one million poor children under the age of 16 in Canada, which comes to 17 per cent of the total or one child in six. Of the total of 1,016,000 low income children, 610,000 or 60 per cent live in two-parent families; 361,000 or 35 per cent are in single-parent families. Newfoundland has the highest incidence of