

The Budget—Mr. Vincent

good old Liberal government left us. We have to live with it.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Vincent: Mr. Speaker, the truth really shakes them. They are waking up, Mr. Speaker, and it is high time they did. The House is going to adjourn in five minutes. But I will be back tomorrow morning. I will be here when you come back, and that should put you in fantastic shape for the rest of the day!

Mr. Speaker, every year I have had a chance to take part in the debate on the Budget, and every year I tried to explain to the Opposition what we were doing, and every year I asked the Opposition— No, they just won't understand, and I never could make them understand, Mr. Speaker. But every year, I asked them and I am doing it again this year: Do you have any measures that could help this country, not the Conservative Party but Canada, to reduce the deficit, because, Mr. Speaker, I will tell you what I have been hearing in the House for the past five days. For the past five days, they have been demanding more money for VIA Rail, more money for day care, more money for unemployment insurance—

Mr. Gauthier: Broken promises!

Mr. Vincent: They want more money for regional development, for training and for the environment—

Mr. Gauthier: Broken promises!

Mr. Vincent: They want more money for the sales tax, for old age security pensions and for family allowance cheques—

Mr. Gauthier: Broken promises!

Mr. Vincent: They want more money for the provinces, for women and for the disabled—

Mr. Gauthier: Broken promises!

Mr. Vincent: They want more money for the CBC, and I could go on and on and on, Mr. Speaker.

Every single day the Opposition ask for more money for everything, while blaming us for not cutting the deficit down enough, not reducing the national debt enough. To use the usual phrase, they speak from both sides of their mouths. Let me remark that some of their colleagues are very well equipped to do that. They speak from both sides of their mouth.

But this Government has a straightforward message. Already in 1984, Mr. Speaker, we stated we had a national debt problem. We stated we had a deficit problem, and new Members here in particular can read the *Debates*, there is a lot to learn in it. They will see we have been suggesting this for four years.

Mr. Speaker, let me ask this question once more: Does anyone in the Liberal Party of Canada or in the New Democratic Party have brilliant solutions to offer? The Liberal critic shares our views. Indeed, the Liberal Party critic thinks as we do. They shut him up for a while. Of course he must shut up. He does not ask questions during Oral Question Period anymore, he does not rise, they shut him up. Mr. Speaker, let me ask the question: If they have such brilliant solutions that will help the country, we are buyers any time. I know beforehand what the NDP will say. The NDP will say: Tax large corporations, tax the individuals who are well off. This we did, Mr. Speaker. This is finished and done with! We cut tax havens for individuals. We imposed a minimum corporate tax and cut corporate tax havens.

Just remember the scientific research tax credit which was imported by the clever Liberal Party of Canada and its Finance Minister of the time which cost billions of dollars to Canadian taxpayers. It was a sham, a real sham which cost billions of dollars to Canadian taxpayers. Such was the result of the Liberal Party of Canada's management. We have eliminated the tax loopholes. We have levied a tax on corporations with assets of over \$10 million. We have done all that for the sole purpose of giving back Canada its proper place among nations, and to stop people from saying that Canada is the country with the greatest debt in the world, which is a fact now. But to achieve this, all Canadian men and women must do their share to reduce both the deficit and the national debt.

In this Budget, something the Opposition has chosen to overlook by jumping a line, we have reduced by 1 per cent the increase in transfer payments to the provinces. I repeat that we did not reduce the payments made to the provinces, but only by 1 per cent their rate of increase. We have reduced the increase. That should be emphasized, because the provinces, just as ordinary individuals, must work together with the Federal Government to finally control our national debt.