

Borrowing Authority Act

doing, the premise being that Mr. Bourassa's Government somehow would be aping the Mulroney Government. I must point out to her that she is badly mistaken—the moves made in Quebec are quite different from those that are being forced upon all of us Canadians by this Tory Government.

Mrs. Mailly: That is absolutely not true.

Mr. Ouellet: There is a big difference looking especially at this Tory Government's prejudice in favour of the big multinational corporations—

Mrs. Mailly: Please, let us have an example.

Mr. Ouellet: —as opposed to the favourable attitude of Quebec's Liberal Government towards the most in need. The difference is so striking that one must be blind not to see it.

Secondly—

Mrs. Mailly: By cutting de-indexation.

Mr. Ouellet: I listened politely to the Hon. Member, I gave her a chance to make her long statement. I would hope that she would extend the same courtesy so I can answer without her interjecting and blowing her top.

Mrs. Mailly: Give me an answer, not a speech.

Mr. Ouellet: I am telling her that her statement showed . . . and indeed she quoted a *Globe and Mail* report that clearly illustrates my point, namely that "Tory times are always tough times". It is an obvious truth which the Hon. Member finds embarrassing, but it is true nonetheless and everyone should recognize it: Since the Conservatives have been in power, things have been bad. They are bad for people in the oil industry, for the farmers, for the over 1 million workers who cannot find a job and for all the young people who still expect to find the jobs they were promised during the last electoral campaign.

Finally, I can tell her that I shall take great care to quote the sentence she used in her short intervention when she spoke about the money wasted by the Liberals for programs to help people bring food to the neediest in our society, and—

Mrs. Mailly: It was a duplication.

Mr. Ouellet: —and to have young people do cleaning jobs for the poorest families. If the Hon. Member thinks that this is a waste of money—

Mrs. Mailly: A duplication, a duplication!

Mr. Ouellet: —I am convinced that the public will judge her as she deserves.

Mrs. Mailly: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member for Papineau knows very well that I spoke about the duplication of programs and not about a waste of money on social programs. He also knows very well that I quoted from the article of Jeffrey Simpson who said, and rightly so, that the international situation is at the root of the problems in the oil industry and of the price of wheat. He also knows very well that, as you

announced earlier, Mr. Speaker, a special committee of the House on which one of his colleagues sits will examine the domestic price of wheat, precisely because the international situation is creating problems in Canada and not the opposite.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, even though the Hon. Member sits with the Official Opposition, he has not learned virtue. He still has a tendency to make very dramatic and political comments which are very far from the truth when all is said and done.

Mr. Ouellet: Mr. Speaker, I accept the retraction of the Hon. Member. I am aware that she realizes that she made a mistake in calling these very important social programs a waste of money. She now wants to call them a duplication.

Mrs. Mailly: Just read the blues.

Mr. Ouellet: This is quite typical of the Conservative Party, Mr. Speaker. Each time that a program is cancelled, the Conservatives say: "There is no need to do this because others will do it for us."

We have here a Government which was elected to solve problems, but its way of solving them is to pass the buck.

This program was working well, but the Government no longer wants any part of it. The provinces are expected to take over and assume all responsibilities. These were job creation programs, but the Progressive Conservative Government does not want to create jobs. It hands them over to private sector interests and tells them: You do our work, you create the jobs. This Government is shirking its responsibilities and does not deserve the confidence of Canadians.

• (1530)

[English]

Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to speak against the Bill that would have us borrow \$22.5 billion for the general expenses of this Government. I speak against it because this summarizes, or it is an opportunity to summarize, what I think is most deeply wrong with the policy of this Government.

Most people in the country, including me, do not have experience with billions of dollars, but most of us have had experience with being in debt. We know that it is really often easier to get into debt than to get out of debt. We have had a series of the old line politicians saying, "Vote for me and I will get the country out of debt". We vote for them, and they get the country further into debt. I think it is time that the matter was examined more deeply.

Three years ago we had a statement from a commission of the bishops of the Roman Catholic Church in Canada, a statement about unemployment which went beyond statements that are sometimes made by public spokesmen, including leaders of the churches. It went beyond simply saying that unemployment is unfortunate, that unemployment hurts