

far more flexible because they will change careers at least three times in their lifetime. Mr. Speaker when these young people get to the post-secondary level, it is important for our schools to have all the facilities and resources they need to ensure that tomorrow's youth has the knowledge and intellectual skills they will have acquired in these institutions.

The victims of this unacceptable decision will be our youth. Mr. Speaker, the Government's excuse is that it does not have the money, but I say, Mr. Speaker, that this excuse is shocking and outrageous!

• (1910)

Even though the Government had no mechanism, no legislation to refund people, banks and companies with deposits of \$60,000 or more, it costing \$1 billion of taxpayers' money in order to do it. The Government was not helping people who had \$50 or \$100 in the bank, but people who had \$60,000 or more. They spent \$1 billion for the rich, at a time when provincial Governments needed that money to help our generation, our youth at the post-secondary level.

Who will be affected as far as Medicare and hospital cost are concerned, Mr. Speaker? First, our senior citizens, because provincial governments will be forced to make cuts in health programs. The quality of care, the quality of services, the salaries paid to the staff will be affected by these cuts made by the Federal Government. Mothers at the time of delivery, maternity departments in hospitals, people afflicted with serious illnesses will be affected—

Mr. Speaker, this party does not care. They imposed a 10 per cent tax on drugs last year. They had the guts to impose a 10 per cent tax on the syringes that diabetics have to purchase. These same individuals had decided that medication for cardiac patients would be taxed. Those people, Mr. Speaker, that is the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney), and his Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) saw the profit for the treasury which could result from people's illnesses. Meanwhile, in order to fulfill an electoral promise, that same government misspent \$55 million of taxpayers' money to change to blue the colour of the uniform of our forces. This same government spends an additional \$100 million a year, to send 1,000 extra soldiers to Lahr in Germany and did grant tax concessions to the Reichman brothers, Mr. Speaker, in the Gulf take-over. And we know the results and what has happened in Quebec and in Montreal East.

Mr. Speaker, this same Prime Minister says today that there is no money for the sick in Canada, no money for our young people; yet, he spends money on a film about himself, for historical purposes apparently.

Mr. Speaker, ever since September 4 we have witnessed a series of blunders and scandals. No wonder that not one Conservative Member, I should not say none, because in fact there was one, the Member for Assumption but he resigned—No wonder that not a single Conservative member should rise in this place to protect the interests of his constituents and the

citizens of the whole province of Quebec, the men and women of Canada, health and post-secondary education—

Mr. Speaker, what has been their main concern since September 4? The appointment of friends, sons and brothers-in-law. Their main concern, their main interest, Mr. Speaker, has been patronage.

Meanwhile, who is suffering hardship in this country? Canadian men and women, of course.

Mr. Speaker, now I am mainly addressing the conservative Members from Quebec because they know full well that the Government will only create more hardship for Quebecers unless it changes its stand with regard to this Bill.

However, we all know this is not the first time Members opposite remain silent. One needs only remember all those issues that were important for the province of Quebec, where decisions had to be made in Ottawa in order to protect the interests of the Quebec people. They failed in all of them: Domtar, the situation in the East end of Montreal, the Gulf take-over, Vickers, all the debates about the shipbuilding industry, the Desbiens pulp and paper plant, Matane.

Mr. Speaker, Quebec businesses face a tax increase, because the Canadian Government refuses to pay the \$66 million in equalization payments it owes the province. And to whom did businesses pass on that cost? To Quebec consumers.

Mr. Speaker, no Conservative Member would dare stand up and say: Wait a minute, we Quebecers have had enough. It's time something is done, it's time for the Government to deliver. But no one on that side has stood up to defend the interests of the people.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to put on the record part of an article written in the Montreal newspaper *La Presse* by Lysiane Gagnon who is very well known in Quebec. The article was published on May 22 under the heading: "Image is not enough". I quote: "The problem with the Conservative Government is that it is 'cheap'. I cannot find any other word that fits it. Incompetent? Not always. Common? The word is too strong. Mean? Well, this is the same as cheap, but it does not have the same ring to it. So let's say it's cheap, because the word conveys at the same time the idea of lure of gain as well as that of being naive and ridiculous, somewhat upstart, a little mean and immensely silly."

Mr. Speaker, this is the reputation this Prime Minister and these Members are making for themselves in Quebec.

I shall not list all the Conservative scandals, Mr. Speaker, I shall not mention the names of the people involved, but that article provides a very good summary of the impact and of the primary concern of this Prime Minister: his own image, his appearance is all that counts. The interests of the people are a minor concern to him.

I am sure that my colleague from Mount Royal, who is here tonight, as well as the Hon. Member for Saint-Léonard—Anjou, would want their Conservative colleagues from Quebec to rise, as they did tonight and get together, as Quebecers, to