

of human misery in different forms. Not to exaggerate, but there are a lot of Canadians that are hurting. They at least need some hope and some confidence that things will improve, that they will get better, that father John will have a job that they can tell their kids about, that they can hold on to their house.

This government tells us to stay the course. Does it really know what is going on in the country? More important, does it really care? What about a growth strategy? What about a job strategy? What about a strategy that will pick up our Canadian businesses again and create the dynamism that is there? What about shaking the banks a bit and saying: "If you are so entrepreneurial, where is the risk taking in small business?" What about a strategy that talks about putting people first and putting Canadians back to work?

They talk about staying the course. No wonder their chief government Whip said that the budget was a disgrace and he is absolutely right.

Mrs. Barbara Sparrow (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I listened quite carefully to my colleague's remarks with regard to the budget. I indeed was in Calgary on Friday night and heard the statement that he refers to and have also been in my riding, Calgary Southwest, in the last few days with regard to the budget. The message I am hearing is that there were not enough cuts.

• (1200)

My colleague mentions the unemployment level. It is too high in Canada. He mentions more people owning their homes. That is absolutely true. It is a good point. I hope he refers back to the December 2 economic statement of the finance minister wherein we extended the RRSP contributions to home owners. With regard to small business and the Small Businesses Loans Act amended a month or perhaps two months ago, the banks are now working with small businesses to create equity.

It has been very interesting. The \$30.7 billion was cut through discretionary spending and we have to make more cuts. The best we can do for all Canadians, and more important for our children and grandchildren, is to get the deficit and debt off their backs.

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The \$30.7 billion in cuts over five years is not enough. Where else can we get it? Let us look at transfers. All the provinces are having extreme difficulties meeting their budget requirements without increasing taxes or deficits. We have another place in which to move and it happens to be with regard to transfer payments to people and to the provinces.

We have one taxpayer and we are going to balance the books. Where is he going to cut?

Mr. Marchi: Mr. Speaker, that is the problem with dogmatic, neo-Conservative, economic fairyland. It is absolutely economically dishonest to suggest to Canadians that if we reduced the deficit as their candidates are saying, one in five years and one in four years, somehow our economy will be purring nicely again, people will return to work, and things will be happy forever and ever.

We need a balanced economic strategy. This member says: "We cut, cut, cut and we need to cut some more. On top of that, if you have a little more we will cut that too". That is a one-track economic tunnel vision that has painted the picture that is Canada 1993.

There is not one suggestion from the member saying: "Hold on, perhaps cutting is only one aspect". How do we expand an economy? How do we create more jobs? How do we create economic stimulus? How do we create economic confidence? They cannot only talk about cut, cut, cut as if that is the exclusive solution to getting the economy on its feet again, even if they slash every program.

What does that say about job creation? What does that say about small businesses? What does that say about bringing people off the welfare rolls or off the unemployment lines? If they are cutting so well how come the line-ups at the food banks are getting longer?

The minister of multiculturalism yesterday rose in his place in response to a question by the member for Mississauga East and said: "Do you know what? Our health care plan is better. We are taking care of the job situation and we have done more things to help the poor people than anybody else".