

The Budget—Mr. Waddell

and it goes outside of the country. We have to tackle that problem.

There is something I cannot understand about the Liberal Party and the Minister of Finance. The Minister and the Deputy Minister, Mickey Cohen, are the same people who gave us the National Energy Program. In one instance they moved toward tackling the problem of foreign control. A year later they bring in a budget that does nothing about tackling the problem of foreign control. Indeed, it gives money to foreign controlled businesses.

This is a zig-zagging Liberal Party. If you look down beneath their message, the Bishops are telling us that Liberalism is finished in this country, that you cannot zigzag like that, you have to choose one way or the other. Are you going to choose the Conservative way of giving money to business, hoping that it will be the engine of economic recovery, or will you choose the New Democratic way which says there has to be a combination of business and Government with a long-term plan to figure out what are the best industries to help and how we as a family can plan to get control of our economy again? That would enable us to have made-in-Canada interest rates and control over our industry in Canada.

This budget gives money to business. It should be giving money to consumers. It does nothing for the people in my riding. It takes money out of their pockets.

I said there would be an increase in tax over the next four years. This budget is so cheap it even takes away the \$100 deduction for charity and medical expense. It is only a little matter, but people notice it. The budget increases rather than decreases the sales tax, which is what it should have done.

We should not be looking at giving money to businesses, because they are running at about 70 per cent of their capacity. There is no demand out there. You have to create consumer demand. You have to reduce the tax on consumers. Instead of increasing the federal sales tax, you should be reducing it. You have to work with the Provinces to get them to reduce their sales tax. That would create a huge job stimulus which would give the economy a jolt. This is a Conservative, wait and see, stock broker budget.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, this is a very conservative budget. It is going to help the private sector, not the average Canadian. The budget is taking money out of the pockets of taxpayers and is doing nothing for the unemployed. The budget even refers to an unemployment rate of 12.4 per cent. This is incredible. And at the same time the Minister says it is an economic recovery budget. What recovery? I did not see any recovery. Has anyone seen any signs of recovery? Not I. The New Democratic Party says we need many more short-term jobs, but not what the Liberals' programs are producing, as in Windsor, where people are hired to count dogs or clean up the bushes. There are bridges in need of repair, municipal projects to be carried out, and so on.

The Liberal Government has promised \$4.8 billion, spread over a period of four years. That is all. In one month, the Government is going to spend more on unemployment insurance benefits than it will spend on job creation in a year.

The bishops said that unemployment was immoral and that it was the greatest problem in Canada. This budget is doing nothing to solve it.

[English]

This budget will not help ordinary people. The final question remains: what can be done? I would follow the Bishops. I would say that unemployment is the number one problem in Canada and that we have to stimulate now. I have outlined some of the ways of doing this. We have to work with the Provinces in reducing taxes. I would say, as was said by the President of the Canadian Labour Congress in expressing his dislike for this budget: put money in people's pockets, consult with labour and working people, not just with big business. That is what we have to do.

It is about time we gave the ordinary person in Canada a break. As the Hon. Member for Kamloops-Shuswap (Mr. Riis) said yesterday, we have to plan as a family for the future. Like all other successful industrialized countries, we have to look at what they did in Sweden, Japan and Austria. Finally, we must free the Canadian economy from the American economy. We must have our own interest rates. We must have our own industrial strategies. We must have a vision for this country. Where is the vision in this budget? There is no vision there. Where is the plan in this budget? There is no plan there. All they offer us is hope.

• (1600)

As our former finance critic once said, the budget is like Tinker Bell. Just put your hands over your eyes and hope and wish that you will fly. This budget is a wish for recovery. In spite of all the words that the Minister of Finance uses, the budget is just more short-term job-creation programs that are not of much use. The people of the country understand that there is no vision in the long term.

In spite of what the Members from the Liberal side may say, more unemployment is right in the budget papers, not significant growth. Mr. Speaker, that is why we in the New Democratic Party have introduced an amendment.

I will conclude by saying that we should stimulate consumer demand. Do not look to big businesses but look to the consumer. Look to the little guy, he will pull this country out. Second, we should undertake job-creation programs immediately to reduce unemployment significantly. Let us not talk about 11.5 per cent unemployment. Let us get it down to 10 per cent, then to 8 per cent, and then to 6 per cent. That is what we should be shooting for.

Finally, we should have an industrial strategy, a family plan for Canada, where we can integrate private and public sector investment and finally take over control of our own country. This has been suggested to the Liberal Party by many of its