

*The Budget—Mr. A. Lambert*

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger):** It being six o'clock I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

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**AFTER RECESS**

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

**Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, when the House took recess, I was quoting this very important excerpt from the speech of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner):

The bare fact of the matter is that we cannot do everything at once.

He was then saying that some projects had remained in abeyance and referring to the suggestions from hon. members concerning the establishment of priorities in the remedies designed to meet the needs of all our people. He said of Canada: "We simply don't have the necessary resources".

Mr. Speaker, what resources did the minister mean? Were they natural resources, human resources, planning resources or else financial resources?

Since this was a budget speech, I presume that the minister was referring to financial resources, since the discussion bore on money, credit—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I regret having to interrupt the hon. member, but one of his colleagues wishes to rise on a point of order.

[English]

**Mr. Pringle:** I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. My point of order is that we are not receiving the English translation of the hon. member's speech, and I am very interested to hear what he is saying.

**Mr. Speaker:** I thought this might be a good opportunity for the hon. member to practise his French.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

[Translation]

**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for calling the attention of the Chair on the fact that the simultaneous translation system was defective. I do the same thing in similar circumstances, which is absolutely normal.

As I was saying, if it was a matter of physical resources, the figures quoted in the budget speech show that such resources are sufficient to fully meet the needs of the people. In fact, according to Statistics Canada, the gross national product for 1971 exceeded \$95 billion. This means that Canadians are devoted to turning the wealth which Providence has made available to them into consumer goods, and that the government now has a responsibility to find the financial resources necessary to finance such production so that every individual, every family, may be assured of the minimum income necessary for a decent living.

• (2010)

Now, this mystery about money struck me several years ago. I was surprised to see that money was lacking in every field and others have also asked themselves questions about this problem.

I would now like to quote an article published in the Quebec newspaper *L'Action* in 1939. It is an editorial by Mr. Louis-Philippe Roy, a very intelligent man who at the time observed, like everyone else, the problems with which Canada was faced while governments were unable to achieve the goals which the population expected them to, and while all sorts of works and projects which the people needed were left unfinished.

This article reads:

**MYSTERY TO BE SOLVED: WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?**

In our Canada, resources are not lacking, nor are the means of transportation for distributing them.

This is still true nowadays.

Our industrial labour is getting rusty with inaction, and our thoroughfares are often deserted.

If Providence was generous to us, if wealth is abundant everywhere, if the earth is only waiting to be worked in order to bring forth its riches, the reason for the crisis is certainly not the poverty of the Canadian soil.

Could it be that production is badly managed? No.

Nor is it badly managed nowadays. It is very well managed, organized, and planned.

Both manufacturers and farmers could produce more if we insured the sale of their products.

Ask the mother of children why her table is bare; the father, why he is going without food; the children, why they are declining; tradesmen, why trade is slow; professionals, why they work so much on credit; all of them will answer: no money!

That happened in 1939, and it is happening again in 1972.

The quotation goes on as follows:

No money! Such is the answer given by governments to those who ask for their support, by industrialists to those who beg for a job, by consumers to retail dealers who ask for orders, by retail dealers to wholesalers; that is the answer that everybody gives to everybody else!—

No money?

However, we know that, during the war, billions of dollars were spent to manufacture destructive devices. At that time, there was some money available.

And I quote again:

Would its function be to organize man's destruction? Yet it seems that money was invented to ensure the exchange of farm or manufactured products, then the exchange of services.

If people suffer, is it not, for a large part, as a result of the paralysis of exchanges? And it's money which would not be playing its part?

Whose fault is it?

It is not God's fault; nor that of nature, for money can exist irrespective of seasons and temperature; it is safe from drought and locusts.

There were locusts in those times too! And I quote:

Its manufacture is limited to the amount of gold available,—