

We have a tremendous future in front of us as far as a new frontier is concerned and our ability to work with nature. In many ways we could cheat nature and pretend that it is doing something which it is not, especially in terms of the hormones we are capable of using on plants. At the very time when we should be encouraging and placing emphasis upon such things, the Government draws back and with a broad brush tries to treat certain parts of the economy of the country the same as it would if it decided not to buy something very physical or very immediate.

I am not saying that we should spend to get ourselves out of debt or to solve our problems. However, I am suggesting that if we want to back up and look at our strengths and opportunities, post-secondary education is one area which we should not be cutting back. We should not even think about it. We should be doing everything we can to increase our research and ability to make ourselves more productive. In fact, it is almost an embarrassment. I am told the reason the federal Government became involved in post-secondary education was that after the Second World War many veterans returned and wanted to attend university. There was a crisis in terms of capacity. I give the Liberal Government of that time credit; it met the challenge. It became involved and provided some extra funding.

In many ways we face the same challenge today. We are in a crisis situation. We have to be competitive around the world. Japan and Taiwan are no longer solely relying on labour. They are going to high technology because they know they cannot compete without it. At the very time those things are ongoing around the world, the Government wants us to cut back and short-change the mind. That is the tragedy of this Bill.

Established Programs Financing

In the time remaining I would like to make a couple of other points. Let me say that I feel embarrassed to see a Bill presented in the House which short-changes the country because it short-changes the future. I do not feel particularly proud to be part of the process. If we had some old-time Liberals listening in today—

An Hon. Member: Any Liberals.

Mr. Mayer: I do not know about that, but obviously some of these guys will vote for it, so I do not consider them to be old-time Liberals. The ones to whom I am referring saw the challenges of the past and met them. Today we have a Government which is surrounded by sycophants, hangers-on, and dilettantes who do not have any faith in the future.

In the last session we had the bankruptcy Bill. It was an indication of how bankrupt is the present Government. We have been afflicted too long with this kind of a government. The sooner we have an election to remove that affliction or yoke from the country, the sooner we will be able to look to the future with confidence and the better off we will be.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member's time is about exhausted; there are a few seconds remaining. Is the House disposed to call it six o'clock?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being six o'clock p.m., this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 2(1).

At 6 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.