

The Budget—Mr. Bockstael

retraining programs for those whose type of work is no longer required. An important fact of life is shelter. It is one of man's basic needs. It is also a basic right. I am happy to report that housing will receive an additional \$355 million. Starts on new homes are up and continuing to go up because under the Canadian Home Ownership Stimulation Program whereby new housing starts receive a \$3,000 grant, we are injecting \$30 million more that will, hopefully, extend the program to the latter part of May. If the funds run out before the end of May, that is the end of the subsidy. If the funds last, it will continue until May 31.

We have added \$120 million to the Canadian Home Renovation Program which makes available \$3,000 forgivable loans. The Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program calls for another \$40 million. There are many other programs for native housing and other types of habitation that are being provided for. To stimulate the economy, the Registered Home Ownership Savings Plan has been boosted so that this can be applied to new homes and also to buy new furnishings and appliances. This will encourage consumers to create demand which the manufacturers will be expected to meet.

I would like to emphasize construction. I have long been an advocate of capital projects that have enduring value and lasting benefit. In the United States in 1935 there was a works project administration, the WPA. On a visit to Los Angeles, I saw dry concrete spillways coming down from the mountains. I wondered what they were for. Those spillways were built in 1935 to take the rush of water down from the mountains when the snow at the cap was melting in order to prevent flooding in downtown Los Angeles. Almost 50 years later these spillways are still functioning and protecting the City of Los Angeles. It is that type of capital works project we endorse.

In post-war Europe there was naturally a great deal of reconstruction required. The huge six-lane auto routes, the EU-4 and EU-b, have a lasting benefit. They were built in the post-war years of 1946-1950 and later and have been serving the public for more than 30 years.

In my home Province of Manitoba, the City of Winnipeg was subjected to annual floods. The federal Government put millions of dollars into an \$81 million project, building a floodway around the city so that the city would not be flooded. That is foresight. That flood prevention project will give long and lasting benefits. Therefore, I am in favour of the Special Recovery Capital Projects proposed in this budget.

There are transport facilities that are needed. We know through projections that they are going to be required. They are inevitable. If we can bring them onstream a little earlier to the benefit of the Canadian public, I am all for it.

I said earlier that the Minister of Employment and Immigration has called for research and training facilities. Last Friday it was announced in Winnipeg that by joint agreement with the Province of Manitoba a technical vocational school will be built in South Winnipeg at a cost of \$5.7 million as part of an \$8 million school being provided by the federal Government. I am in favour of many more small projects. The reason I mentioned smaller projects is that, rather than seeing something like Expo that goes on for three years and hires many

people but concentrates in one locale, I would prefer to see several smaller projects that employ more engineers, more architects, more designers, more contractors and allow wider distribution of the investment of the Canadian Government in such smaller projects rather than in one single massive one.

• (1640)

There are other spin-offs and benefits that flow from this budget that are too numerous to mention. Under tax legislation, family child care expenses have been doubled and a family can deduct as much as \$8,000 under that program. The Child Tax Credit Program has also been increased. There are other tax changes that apply to employment expense being increased to the benefit of people who earn less than \$26,000 a year.

The Government's proposal in its April 19 budget will go a long way to instil confidence in our economy. This morning on television and on radio we saw and heard that officials of the Royal Bank of Canada and top investment consultants are saying that Canada is on its way to recovery, that we are on the right track and are doing what is necessary to bring that about as quickly as possible. This budget will instil confidence in investors, in business people, both large and small. It will restore consumer confidence and encourage Canadians to put some of their savings back into circulation in order to start the wheels of industry humming again. We are on the road to recovery and we are on the right track. It is thanks to the Minister of Finance and the Liberal Government that we are now able to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to make certain comments about the Conservative budget that the Liberals have put forward. I will not deal with every item in the budget. The Liberals and Members of the Government have already covered sufficiently some of the smaller items that they hope will distract our attention. They have pointed out some of the very small concessions made to the public and to the ordinary working people. I will not discuss the fact that the Liberals have apparently undertaken to buy, with our money, another term of office by proposing a budget that can only take effect after the latest possible date of the next election.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to emphasize that this budget is not a recovery budget, as it has been called, let alone a job creation budget, as has been suggested. It is a budget that will undertake to spend in the next four years \$4.8 billion for recovery but will take in at least \$6 billion of extra taxation to cover that. At the same time, it makes no serious effort to restore Canada to full employment.

The budget does not seriously consider what is the problem that causes our present record unemployment levels. Unemployment levels are at a record high for anybody who is less than 43 years old. The problem, I suggest, is that unemployment afflicts Canada regularly, first, because of the tendency for our present type of economy to boom and bust. It has a