

*The Budget—Mrs. Appolloni*

cial languages act in that it provides for only one official language in the province of Quebec.

Millions, yes, even billions of dollars can be saved both in government at all levels and the private sector if the implementation of bilingualism is reassessed and halted. If the government and the minister are sincere in their efforts, then this is the type of item which can and should be deleted as not absolutely essential to our economy, security and wellbeing. Top level meetings should be arranged with the appropriate ministers and first ministers of all the provinces right now.

In addition to languages being taught through a uniform integrated educational system from sea to sea, along with geography, the sciences, the arts, etc., our children should learn more about the nature of that thing which will concern them every hour of their lives; the money in their pockets and the banking and credit system. They should be taught how money works, what banks do with it, how governments are controlled by it. They should be taught about the banking system and how banks can increase or decrease money supply. Perhaps if all these things were taught to our children, and they were given more knowledge and know-how in respect to the monetary system, the next generation would never find itself in the economic situation we find ourselves today.

One former Liberal prime minister once said:

Once a nation parts with the control of its currency and credit, it matters not who makes the nation's laws... Until the control of the issue of currency and credit is restored to government and recognized as its most conspicuous and sacred responsibility, all talk of the sovereignty of Parliament and of Democracy is idle and futile.

Just to be fair let me read what a former Progressive Conservative Minister of Finance once said:

I emphasize that the government of Canada has no power of control whatever over the money supply. It cannot increase it or decrease it.

As evidence of good faith the Banker's Association of Canada, representatives of the federal government and the Bank of Canada should meet to work out the details and timing of a changeover to a new monetary system as soon as possible.

● (2150)

**Mrs. Ursula Appolloni (York South):** Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening first of all to pay tribute to a great parliamentarian. I did not agree with all his views, but I have no doubt whatsoever that he was sincerely dedicated to the people of Canada. I refer to Mr. David Lewis, and would like to take this opportunity to wish him well in his new career.

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

**Mrs. Appolloni:** I should now like to congratulate the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) on what I believe to be a sincere desire to give this country a budgetary policy which is both realistic and humane. Inflation is the scourge of our times, and I applaud the minister's determination to fight it and at the same time to maintain economic growth without jeopardizing employment. We must not underestimate the complexities of inflation. Anyone who says there is an easy, pat solution to the problem is either a fool, a liar, or both.

[Mr. Jones.]

One of the easiest traps into which a free enterprise system can fall is that which by promoting vertical integration in the name of efficiency, can very well be instrumental in elbowing out the small businesses. Yet in the same free society it is often the same small businesses which, by their creativity, industry and determination, are the very pivot on which our economy turns. To these small but essential businesses I am proud to say that this government in this budget has accorded recognition and incentive.

Many of the constituents whom I have the honour to represent are senior citizens to whom we owe an immense debt of gratitude for their hard work and fine example. The people of York South, therefore, welcome the tax concessions to pensioners.

I should like to pause on that note, Mr. Speaker, and add a few words about the Canada Pension Plan. My constituents are primarily hardworking people to whom the work ethic is a fact of life. But, our modern pace is quicker and more full of stress and strain than that of some years ago. Despite the best will in the world, the 60-year old of today is sometimes just too tired, too exhausted to work, yet he or she just cannot afford to retire. In the name of these people I look forward to the day when the eligibility age for the Canada Pension Plan can be lowered to 60.

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

**Mrs. Appolloni:** And what of the millions of housewives who, through no fault of their own, are ineligible for the same plan? Let us not forget the fact that, despite the growing number of women in the labour force, there are still many who would rather sacrifice material gains in order to assure a proper home atmosphere for their children and a base of peace and tranquility for their husbands. Many of those housewives would be delighted to contribute, but many cannot afford to, and this latter group must be just as protected as the former.

I realize that the problem is a complex actuarial one which needs the attention of people more qualified than I to solve it. Complexity alone is no reason for sweeping questions under the mat. I would hope, therefore, that the Department of National Health and Welfare will dedicate to this subject the same capabilities and skills it has afforded to others.

To many of the constituents of York South the ravages of war and the horrors of discrimination and persecution are harsh memories, of which they bear the scars to this day. To them, and to their friends and relatives they left behind, peace is not only a necessity to survival, but a daily prayer. To these constituents the recent proceedings at the United Nations have been of paramount importance.

Canada too wants peace and strives daily for justice for all. I hope and pray that both can be achieved, and applaud the Liberal government, of whom I am a loyal supporter, for continuing its efforts, and in no way deviating from its path of traditional friendship towards Israel.

At one time in my career I was a member of the air force. There I received training second to none, combined with a sense of duty and discipline that has stood me in good stead throughout the following period of my life. May I now take this opportunity to express my deepest