

One way or another, we must admit that young people have a hard time entering the labour market. Such persistent alienation cannot be dismissed as harmless just because youth is a temporary stage of life, Mr. Speaker. Special programs have to be put in place to help young people enter the labour market provided these programs do not penalize other groups and do not set young people apart even more so than they are now. More practical arguments than merely providing equality of opportunity can be brought up to justify the creation of special youth employment programs. It is highly important to train young people so that they may take over responsible jobs. Disenchantment and frustration on being turned down when applying for a job can lead to a feeling of rejection that may affect young workers for a long time. Unemployment and instability prevent people from acquiring good working habits and tend to isolate them more and more from the labour force.

In certain cases, unemployment among the young leads to an increase in crime. That problem is especially felt in large American and Canadian cities where unemployment among the young results in an increase in the number of suicides, in violence, prostitution and drug consumption. After a while, it is very difficult to pull some young people away from their illegal activities. In some European countries, for example in Italy, there is fear that this type of unemployment will lead to an increase in violence and to anarchy. We could discuss high and low the youth problem, but I would like to deal with other subjects relating to the budget.

● (1520)

[English]

As I said in my speech yesterday, Mr. Speaker, there is nothing in this budget for the youth of Canada, nothing but repeated promises and vague solutions. No, what we have are measures that will create more unemployment and raise prices to a level that we have not seen since the years when we had Conservative governments, and you know what happened to those governments, Mr. Speaker.

[Translation]

What we have is a budget that will increase by approximately \$380 a year the mean transportation and heating costs of the average Canadian family. And for the average Quebec dairy producer, that means an increase of almost \$800 a year. Last April, when he was addressing the Quebec Chamber of Commerce, the leader of the Progressive Conservative Party (Mr. Clark) announced in the middle of the election campaign that he would increase the country's economic growth by 5 per cent, that he would reduce unemployment to 5 per cent and that he would bring the inflation rate down to 5 per cent. Mr. Speaker. However, in this budget the Tories foresee not a growth of 5 per cent but a mean growth of 3 per cent until 1985. And if that is what they anticipate, it will probably be less. For 1980, the government anticipates in its budgetary documents a real economic growth of only 1 per cent.

The Budget—Mr. Bob Jarvis

Instead of bringing the unemployment rate down to 5½ per cent by 1985, the Progressive Conservatives have chosen, as shown by their budget forecasts, to let it rise from 7.3 per cent this year to 8.3 per cent next year, and they do not seem intent on trying to achieve the present rate, even by 1985. Instead of reducing inflation to 5½ per cent, it is now certain that Conservative policies will increase the present rate of 9.3 per cent by more than 100 per cent in the next two years and that there will be a very slow decrease afterwards.

Before concluding my remarks, Mr. Speaker, there is another aspect of the problem to be considered, and that is the area of federal-provincial relations. For the past six months, the new government has been advocating a new era in federal-provincial relations, an era of consultation, of non-interference and of co-operation. With this budget, one can see the results achieved, Mr. Speaker. Several premiers, some of which are even Conservatives, are condemning the budget, while others, such as the British Columbia premier, say that his province is ignored by the provisions contained in the federal budget. As to Quebec, the situation is quite simple and is summed up by this newspaper headline:

[English]

"Budget will help PQ win votes: Parizeau". I quote:

Parizeau said yesterday that the measure makes no economic sense. Politically, it presents Quebec with a "remarkable opportunity" to show how federalism works against Quebec's interests—

Quebec says the gas tax hike will siphon \$600 million out of the province, virtually cancelling the benefits Quebec draws from federal subsidies for imported oil.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, when the Prime Minister was asked to get involved in the referendum debate, we had the feeling he was going to do so on the federalist side. Unfortunately, with statements like those made by Mr. Parizeau, one can see that the separatist forces are more likely to benefit from the situation. With the measures contained in the budget, Mr. Speaker, the Progressive Conservative government succeeded in creating a common cause among separatists who were in the middle of a unity crisis. The Quebec minister of finance has stated that he intends to draw maximum benefit from this budget during the referendum period. This, Mr. Speaker, is not the kind of contribution we expected from the Prime Minister. We wanted some support for the federalist forces. For this and many other reasons, it seems obvious to me that all opposition members should do everything possible to defeat this government as soon as possible.

[English]

Mr. Bob Jarvis (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, as a new member may I say how proud I am to rise to give this, my first speech in support of the budget of the hon. Minister of Finance (Mr. Crosbie). For the first time in over a decade we have a budget, a finance minister and a government which has had the courage and fortitude to be honest and open with the