

back on that part of Canada. It is up to the federal Government to show the appropriate leadership by giving British Columbians, like all Canadians, a sense of hope. That hope can only be realized when people have a dream for the future. An old Hungarian proverb states that where there is no dream the people perish. In British Columbia there is no dream, just a nightmare.

The federal Government has the obligation to provide that dream through leadership in such areas as the forest sector. It can show that it is committed to the development of programs to encourage research and development that will allow the forest sector to expand into new product lines, plant modernization and the development of new markets.

The Government can provide leadership by assisting the agricultural sector in the same way. That leadership is not shown by abandoning a Crown corporation like Canagrex. In its first year of operation that Crown corporation discovered hundreds of millions of dollars of new market opportunities for the food producers in Canada. Many of those producers are from western Canada, including British Columbia. The federal Government in its wisdom decided to abandon that assistance program and not use it to find new markets for the food producers in British Columbia and other parts of Canada. I raise the question of Canagrex because it is an example of a direction the Government should not be taking with respect to that sector.

We have submitted many suggestions for the Government's upcoming Budget that will assist the people of British Columbia and all Canadians. I beg the federal Government, its Ministers and the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney), when they bring down the Budget, to recognize the particular plight faced by the people of British Columbia. They have particular difficulties and a need for assistance in the restructuring of almost every major sector of the economy. It is time for some special and extraordinary consideration for that part of Canada. I encourage the Government to allow us to get on with the proper development of that province to its fullest potential.

**Mr. St. Germain:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to change the tone of the debate here today. I believe it is time for us to take a more positive attitude in this country. The Hon. Member for Kamloops-Shuswap (Mr. Riis) has not proposed one positive solution for the problems facing the people of British Columbia, problems of which we are aware.

I replaced a man who resigned his seat in the House of Commons to run provincially. After listening to the first ten minutes of the speech by the Hon. Member for Kamloops-Shuswap, I thought for a moment that he would be running provincially. He has lost sight of the fact that we are representatives of British Columbia at the federal level. I realize that solutions can be made at the federal level as well as the provincial level, but the co-operation that is required from the provincial Government, whether it is Social Credit, NDP or Liberal, in order to achieve those solutions will not be achieved if we continually take a confrontational approach. The election

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is over. We must work together as Canadians to begin programs that will benefit the Hon. Member's constituents as well as mine.

I stand in the House today as a small businessman who gave up my business because of the plight of British Columbians and all Canadians. The plight they face is the result of the devastation brought on by the Liberal Government and its coalition friends, the NDP. Today I saw them applauding together, as they always have, over the destruction of this country.

**Mr. Riis:** Try to be positive.

**Mr. St. Germain:** Let's talk about the most important resource and the most important industry we have in British Columbia softwood lumber.

**Mr. Riis:** People are the most important. That is where you are wrong. You think it is a bloody tree! You think trees are more important than people!

**Mr. St. Germain:** We did not disturb the Hon. Member during his speech and this does not call for heckling. We have the Hon. Member upset.

**Mr. Riis:** You say that trees are most important in the Province of B.C. That is precisely the point; "Let's get coal, let's get codfish".

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. St. Germain:** Let us examine the forest industry in which most British Columbians are employed. Those Members stand up in the House every day to slam our best trading partner and best friend, the United States of America. They are jeopardizing the very industry in which British Columbians have jobs today.

**Mr. Riis:** They are putting up tariff walls against the softwood industry.

**Mr. St. Germain:** That party is totally irresponsible.

On a more positive note, the Hon. Member referred to Expo '86. That will be one of the greatest success stories this country has ever seen because Canadians will make it succeed in spite of the negative approach by the Hon. Member and his Party.

**Mr. Riis:** Let's bet on that.

**Mr. St. Germain:** I will bet on that any time. We are the leaders in this country and we will show what leadership is. We will make Expo '86 succeed in spite of those Members.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. I regret to interrupt the Hon. Member. Does the Hon. Member for Kamloops-Shuswap (Mr. Riis) wish to respond?

**Mr. Riis:** You bet I would, Mr. Speaker.

**An Hon. Member:** Are you going to talk about doom and gloom?