

terms of markets around the world. In the New Democratic Party we say that when corporations are making money and profits they have the same obligation to pay their share of taxes as all other Canadians. That is the fundamental point.

If you look at what has happened in our country since 1950 the statistics are alarming in their significance. In 1950, just five years after the Second World War, there was a distribution of fifty-fifty between individuals in Canada and corporations in terms of the tax burden. In the last 35 years the share of the tax burden paid by individuals, ordinary families all over our land, has been continually going up and the share paid by corporations, which are making profits, has been continually going down. Before this Budget was brought in the last statistics that we had showed that the share of taxes paid by corporations in our country had dropped to 20 per cent and that paid by individuals had increased to 80 per cent. That, in anyone's terms, ought to be seen as an unfair distribution of tax burden.

● (1540)

During virtually the whole period since he has had the responsibility as Minister, the Minister of Finance has said in reply to questions from many of my colleagues that he would be looking at the corporate tax structure. During last year he would nod his head, smile and tell Hon. Members that they had interesting suggestions to which he would give serious consideration. I remember when he said: "The Hon. Member for Oshawa (Mr. Broadbent) will be happy when he sees the Budget. He will see the reforms he is talking about and the corporations will begin to pay their share". What is the reality? We cannot be facetious about it because there are many millions living in poverty in this rich land of ours. We also know that many families living in poverty continue to pay taxes.

I believe Members on all sides of the House know that if we had a sense of fairness and a serious desire for reform of the personal and corporate tax system, no person living in poverty should be paying taxes at all in Canada. This can be accomplished. It has been done in Scandinavia and many other countries in the world. It is time that it took place in Canada as well.

The question of sharing the tax burden does not involve simple cold, analytical and technical points, it is a subject that has a direct bearing on the life and experience of our citizens.

Many of us hoped to see progress when we listened to the Minister of Finance talk about serious corporate tax reform during the past year. Instead, we saw some trickery, a slight upward shift of the tax burden on corporations for the coming year. Furthermore, in 1987, individuals will pay \$5.5 billion more in fiscal year 1987-88 while corporations will actually get a tax reduction. The net effect is that for the first time in Canadian history, individuals in Canada will be paying more than 81 per cent of the tax burden while corporations will drop below 20 per cent. That is unfair, it is a shame and a disgrace. The people of Canada will not put up with it much longer.

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Having regard to the effect of the Budget on unemployment, the projections show virtually no change at all for the next two years. There will still be a million unemployed. As to the effect of the Budget on farmers, some of our Members have already indicated that they get nothing from the Budget except a fund to encourage them to move off the farm. Regarding the effects of this on youth, we see the abolition of a Department which ought to be doing something for youth.

When one considers the effects of the Budget on the average family, no matter from what part of the country, there is only one conclusion that can be reached. It is that the Conservative Party has no sense of fairness. Those in need are forgotten, while those who have get more, and the majority in the middle will have to pay the bill. That is the sum of Conservative justice which just is the opposite to the idea of justice and fairness held by ordinary Canadians.

I want to serve notice on the Government that the New Democratic Party shares the sense of shock and dismay of the ordinary family about this Budget. I see that a Conservative Member is laughing. I hope he goes back to his riding to sit down with an average family there and explain why they should be paying \$1,300 more while the rich person pays less and corporations get a tax break.

While Conservatives may laugh about the most horrendous tax increase in modern history, and while they may remain indifferent in their concern for the average family, we are not indifferent and we will be travelling throughout the country in the next week to speak to Canadians in different parts of our land to deliver the message that there is one Party in the House of Commons that cares about their concerns in tax matters, the New Democratic Party, and we will do everything we can to stop these regressive tax measures from becoming law.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: For questions or comments, the Hon. Member for Chicoutimi (Mr. Harvey).

Mr. Harvey: Mr. Speaker, we cannot leave unchallenged an intervention such as this.

The Leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Broadbent) should normally convey truth and objectivity. I suggest we have just seen the best evidence of . . . and if we were to give awards for raving and demagoguery, he would certainly be our first choice.

They will take every opportunity to rave about fundamental principles and start rhetorical debates. They will try to bring us back to the eternal conflict between the haves and the have-nots. Thank Heaven, Mr. Speaker, with our second Budget, we will be able to raise between \$3 and \$4 billion over the next two years to finance our most progressive programs, especially in the area of employment. We are not going to get this money from the poor or the disadvantaged; for the first time, we are going to get it from the affluent who can most afford it. It is the first time that the federal Government levies