

The Address—Mr. de Jong

When I visit households in Saskatchewan I meet people who tell me; "Mr. de Jong, we will support the New Democratic candidate but unfortunately we cannot put up a sign because my daughter happens to be a clerk in the town corporation". They are afraid. People in Saskatchewan are afraid to express their political points of view because there is a vindictive, hateful Government that will stoop to the lowest of the low. It has stepped outside of the normal bounds of human decency to a degree that is hard to imagine. Those Members laugh.

Let me cite just one incident. One of the Members of the Legislature from my district, who used to be the Attorney General and is now the provincial treasurer, printed in one of his householders a year after he was elected the name of some 20 civil servants whom the Tories had fired and which jobs they had taken. That degree of witch-hunting of the individual in an attempt to destroy his or her life and professional career shows their pettiness and hatefulness. Those Hon. Members laugh and think it is a great joke. It is a crying shame and on October 20 the people of Saskatchewan will deliver a message that will be heard. It will be heard in this Parliament because it means an end to the type of witch-hunt, vindictiveness and hatefulness for which the Tories are known today.

What a difference from the Conservatives of the John Diefenbaker era! When we consider the new bunch from the right, the imports of the ideology from the U.S., the hate and venom with which they express their hate is abhorrent and foreign to this country. That is why that group will also be turfed out in the next election.

We in Saskatchewan believe that Tory Governments are something like Halley's comet, they come once in a lifetime. That is enough for us.

The Speech from the Throne also contained the promise of tax reform by the Government. A fairer taxation system is what the rhetoric is all about. Yet, let us consider the record of the Budgets that have been introduced so far by the Government. The Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) has in fact accelerated the trend toward unfairness. Direct taxes on persons are forecast to increase from \$38 billion to \$66 billion between 1984 and 1990, while, over the same period, taxes on corporations will merely rise from \$12 billion to \$16.6 billion. By 1990, individuals will shoulder 80 per cent of Canada's tax burden, while corporations will only pay 20 per cent. Currently, people contribute 75 per cent and 25 per cent.

The Government has promised tax reform. We are holding our breath because we are waiting for the type of tax reform the Government talks about. It is a tax reform that will mean a greater tax burden on working Canadians and greater tax breaks for the rich whom that Party represents.

We have seen a two-tier society growing in this country, with a greater number of people living in poverty while smaller groups of people are becoming richer.

Today, the top 20 per cent of Canadian families take 43.3 per cent of all income, while the bottom 20 per cent take 3.6 per cent of all income. The unfairness in our society is

accelerating and, rather than reversing that trend, the Government has accelerated it with its taxation policies and programs. That is why there is no doubt in my mind that on October 20 the people of Saskatchewan will have had enough of their Tory Government, and when this Government dares to face the electorate it will also be finished.

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. Today during Question Period, the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) quoted at length from a telex sent to him by Premier Ghiz of Prince Edward Island. We on this side of the House assumed that if a request were to be made to the Prime Minister for the document it would be made readily available. However, I just learned that a request for the document from a reporter working with Canadian Press has been refused by the Prime Minister's Office.

I can certainly refer to the necessary citations, but I want to raise a question of privilege and indicate that it is contrary to the well established precedents of the House and privileges of Members for the Prime Minister to refuse to make a document available when he quoted from it in the way that he did in Question Period.

I would like you to rule, Mr. Speaker. I make this request with utmost respect, that the Prime Minister be called upon to table in the House as soon as possible the telex from which he quoted, purported to be from Premier Ghiz of Prince Edward Island.

Mr. Kilgour: Mr. Speaker, with great respect, I submit that the matter should be raised under Questions of Privilege, which should come up as listed on the *Order Paper* tomorrow.

● (1740)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Papproski): I appreciate what has been brought up by Hon. Members and the Hon. House Leader. I will advise the Speaker. We will look at the "blues" and give a ruling tomorrow.

Mr. Cassidy: Mr. Speaker, I presume the comments made on the point of order are not part of the 10 minutes allotted to my colleague. I would like the Hon. Member for Regina East (Mr. de Jong) to clarify perhaps a situation which is very confusing to me. Today during Question Period we heard variously from the Minister responsible for the Wheat Board and from the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) with respect to the situation of prairie farmers. The Prime Minister kept on talking about how new money was going to be put into the pockets of western farmers who are in a very difficult situation. However, despite his comments in this House on Friday, he would not be precise and it is clear the Government does not have a plan. I wonder whether my colleague can perhaps elucidate the meaning of those comments? Are prairie farmers going to receive money for deficiency payments? Will it be new money? Is this simply a political piece of opportunism on the part of the Government which is concerned about its Conservative colleagues in the Province of Saskatchewan? Is there a genuine desire on the government side to ensure that