

*Time Allocation*

even more than Abraham's lifetime. We would have to get some of his "begats" to keep counting.

• (1610)

**Mr. Cosgrove:** Why don't you ask your teenagers for their computers?

**Mr. Korchinski:** In order to count to \$90 billion, which this Government is going to spend, would require 2,853 years. Methuselah, it was said, lived for 965 years. It would take three of his lifetime to count out the \$90 billion which this Government is going to spend this year.

Let us look at it another way. Assuming every one of these pieces of paper was \$10 billion—and remember that the Government has committed us to \$90 billion in expenditures this year—out of that \$90 billion we have to set aside two notes, worth \$10 billion each, just to service the debt, which is interest on money borrowed.

We are borrowing the equivalent of \$30 billion, so we set aside another three of these pieces of paper, and what do we have left? We have \$40 billion. That is all we can afford to spend on ourselves today.

What brought us to this situation? I was interested in the remarks made by the Hon. Member for Shefford. He commented on the youth and how he was concerned about them. Let me tell you about my concerns, and let me tell you about my grandparents. When my grandparents came to this country they did not ask the Government for anything except for a chance to work. They did not ask another taxpayer to help them. They tried to stay off the welfare rolls. They were quite prepared to pay their way.

But what has happened in the intervening years with a Liberal Government in power? No matter what we have heard, the Liberal Government has taken us down the road that has led us to where we are today.

**Mr. Lapierre:** What about John Diefenbaker?

**Mr. Korchinski:** I will tell you about John Diefenbaker. I have a few things that I can tell you about John Diefenbaker. In John Diefenbaker's time inflation was under 2 per cent. What do we have now? I can tell you a few more things about John Diefenbaker. I have all the facts here if you give me enough time.

My grandparents came to this country. They were quite prepared to pay their way. But what is happening here today? The Hon. Member says he is concerned about the youth. But who will pay for this borrowing? The youth who are coming onstream are going to be paying. The Hon. Member points to himself. But you are also going to have to point to every young boy or girl in diapers today. They are the ones who are going to have to pay for this. It was all right for any grandparents to pay their way. It is all right for any grandchildren to pay their way, but heaven forbid that the present generation should pay its way.

What is wrong with this society? I have watched what has happened. The last year we had a surplus was in 1969-1970. What happened after that? We have been in a steady decline with deficit after deficit after deficit. From 1958 to 1964 inflation was below 2 per cent. What happened in the 1970s? Hon. Members will remember that Mr. Turner was the Minister of Finance in 1972. Do you remember what happened, Mr. Speaker? He got into an argument with the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) because the country was going downhill. Perhaps Mr. Turner knew about it, but he did not stay to fight. He took off into the wild yonder. He left the country to the mercy of the Prime Minister whose only objective was to get elected and throw money at the people telling them that deficits are no problem.

Are deficits no problem? I have already told Hon. Members that in 1969-1970 we had a surplus of \$493 million. But in 1970 to 1971 there was a deficit of \$372 million. But 1972 the deficit had risen to \$702 million. By 1975 John Turner realized the deficit would reach \$1.7 billion and he said, "This is enough. I am getting out. I cannot take the responsibility."

Then along came Macdonald, and he said "I will fix it. I will take over." He was given a lot of credit for a lot of intelligence. And so now he has been appointed to solve all our problems. Mr. Macdonald took over as minister of Finance in 1975 and left office in 1977. In two years the deficit jumped from \$1.7 billion to \$6.2 billion. Now he is going to take three years to tell us what is wrong. I can tell you in two minutes what is wrong. All you have to do is to look at where we are going and where we have been. The only thing the Government has said all along is, "We have to get elected." In 1972 the Liberals ran around the country and said the Conservatives did not have anybody to lead the country. They said to compare Minister for Minister, the Liberals ridiculed the Conservatives. Yes, they ridiculed us.

**An Hon. Member:** No.

**Mr. Korchinski:** I have fought every campaign since 1957 and I know the stories and how we were ridiculed.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Harquail):** Order, please. I regret to interrupt the Hon. Member for Mackenzie (Mr. Korchinski) but his time has expired.

**An Hon. Member:** Let him carry on.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Harquail):** First, I would like to deal with the matter as to whether or not there is unanimous consent in order to allow the Hon. Member to continue. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Harquail):** The Hon. Member for Mackenzie has the agreement of the House to continue for a brief period.