Government Orders

Earlier today my leader pointed out that the change as a result of this mini budget is a net loss of 61,879 jobs. A total of 55,000 jobs will be created by the changes but 117,000 jobs will be lost.

Just go through it. The wage cut will cost 9,200 jobs; the operating budget cut will mean the elimination of 43,000 jobs; the UI benefit cut will affect almost 30,000 people; science and technology, 2,900 jobs; the selective native programs, 1,500 jobs; international assistance—we always think of our assistance overseas as money going away from this country—there are almost 1,400 jobs tied into those cuts; regional and industrial cuts, 8,400 jobs; and the green plan cuts will eliminate 5,200 jobs. If the government had gone forward with the green plan and added to it we could have created many more.

As for the transportation subsidy, a week after CN announces that 10,000 jobs will be gone over the next five years this government comes up with a program that is going to cut another 3,200.

This government has no business governing this country. It is bankrupt of ideas. The morality of this budget is under question. It should not go forward and we certainly will do what we can to make sure it does not.

Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands): Madam Speaker, as I listened to the conclusion of the remarks by the hon. member for Thunder Bay—Atikokan, I could only think of crocodile tears. I could only think that if he had been speaking in the Ontario legislature he would have made exactly the same speech.

Mr. Angus: No, I would not.

Mr. Milliken: Exactly, almost word for word the same. He has a Minister of Finance in Ontario, Pink Floyd, and a premier that we are saddled with—I happen to be from Ontario as he knows. They are doing exactly the same thing to the people of Ontario as this Minister of Finance is doing to everybody in Canada. He has introduced budget cuts affecting the poor and the disabled and has taken money away from the disabled.

An hon. member: And students.

Mr. Milliken: And students. This member talks about fairness and he sheds crocodile tears on behalf of the unemployed. Yet his premier is doing it to the same voiceless crowd that this government is doing it to, and

he knows it. He should be ashamed of himself and he should have mentioned the disgust and revulsion he feels at the way the premier of Ontario is treating the people of that province after all his la-di-da promises that are so typical of the New Democratic Party.

However, I do not want to dwell just on him because that is bad enough. I know it is something about which I could go on at length, but I have colleagues in the Ontario legislature who are fighting for truth and justice there. Therefore I will turn my remarks instead to the minister across the way.

As my colleagues indicated by their applause a few minutes ago, I want to congratulate the minister on staying in for the debate. It is a rare thing on the Conservative front bench.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Milliken: Having said that I would like to go back to some history which I thought would be of interest to the minister. I wish his colleague, the former Minister of Finance and now the Minister of Industry, Science and Technology, was here because I am sure he would enjoy these quotes. He likes it when I quote him. I did the other day and I know he was pleased.

I have a quote now from page 98 of *Hansard* on November 8, 1984. This was an economic statement. It is similar to what we have had for the last day or two in debate.

Mr. Mazankowski: It was a good statement.

Mr. Milliken: The minister says it was a good statement. I would like to read part of it. It was a great statement. It was sort of the beginning of the end for the Conservative Party. It says:

In our centennial year the net federal debt was \$18 billion; by the end of the fiscal year it will be about ten times higher, \$190 billion; by 1990, if there are no changes, it could approach \$410 billion.

Of course we know it approached it and it exceeded it by miles. The minister himself is predicting that it will be, I think, \$490 billion by the end of the next fiscal year. He went on:

• (2200)

Let me put this in more personal terms. In 1967 this debt represented about \$4,000 per family; this year it represents about \$24,000 per family. And by 1990, if we do not take action, it will be the equivalent of about \$54,000 for every Canadian family.