

into the larger urban areas where the cost of living is out of reach and where they become lonely in the crowd and worse off than they were before.

Only when we have a government that addresses the problems of the people, giving them encouragement to improve themselves in order to meet daily challenges, only then will we have a situation where the people handling the public accounts of Canada can honestly say that the money has been well spent and well invested.

This government must go. From the poll that is out this morning, more than three out of four Canadians agree with that statement. All the rhetoric of this government, all the rhetoric of the Minister of Finance, all the rhetoric of the Prime Minister and the broken promises must be replaced with a Liberal government with integrity and an agenda to bring Canada and Canadians back together again, so that they can live in harmony and with confidence in the future and so that we can also get on with creating additional harmony in the world today and manage the peace that is taking place in eastern Europe.

Canada has always played a major role in world affairs and that is probably the biggest public account we can discuss today, because if we as a nation can add greatly to promoting peace and retaining this peaceful development and transition that is taking place in eastern Europe, we will probably save the world the expense of another world war. That can be the biggest public account one could ever think of.

Madam Speaker, you have been very patient. I thank you very much for that and also for your consideration, when I have had about six interruptions along the way since I started this speech this morning.

**Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor):** Madam Speaker, let me start out by saying that I look forward to hearing exactly how we will find somewhere in this country a Liberal Party with integrity. It is something for which I have searched for many years in the history of our country, and I cannot myself say that I have found it, which is not to say that I support this borrowing bill by this government.

We have the remarkable sight of a government with 17 per cent popularity across this country coming to the House of Commons and saying to us: "All we want to

borrow is \$25.5 billion". With 17 per cent support, "give us \$25.5 billion".

I am certain that there have been outrageous demands made by governments throughout the history of the world. There have been outrageous demands made by governments throughout the history of this country. I doubt if we have ever heard anything more outrageous than a government which has just 17 per cent of the people of this country behind it saying to this House of Commons: "Give us the right to borrow \$25.5 billion".

For us in the Parliament of Canada to give this incompetent group of ministers, this incompetent group of committee chairs, this incompetent group of members of Parliament, the *carte blanche* to go out and borrow \$25.5 billion would assume that we had some confidence in their ability to manage this economy; that we had some confidence in their competence. I ask you, Madam Speaker: How could we possibly in light of what has taken place over the last few years? Let us be even more precise: in light of what has taken place over the last week, how could we have anything but a sense of complete disregard, complete disrespect, and complete lack of confidence in this government in front of us?

I must give my congratulations to the new minister who introduced this legislation. He is a worthy and honourable addition to this government. That is not something I would say about a great many ministers within this government, but I certainly say it about him. I want to put the point very clearly. In starting his discussion about this borrowing bill, he made the case that this was somehow justified because the budget record of this government was a budget record of success, a budget record which could be believed in by the people of Canada, and a budget record which somehow was doing something positive for people across this country. If we take the most recent budget we see absolutely clearly that it has been a set of attacks on the weakest and most vulnerable groups and people within our government's line of fire.

• (1520)

The Conservatives have attacked the poor with cut-backs to social assistance programs to various provinces. They have attacked aboriginal Canadians with cut-backs in support to groups such as the Assembly of First