

is doing something. But what is it doing with the numbers of individuals who are having a hard time day in and day out? It is doing nothing for the people of Canada. I feel sorry for this Government. There is only one answer which can be given, and that is, if those Hon. Members feel that the Budget which was presented here is that good, why do they not go to the people of Canada?

Mr. Taylor: They will throw them out.

Mr. MacDougall: Let the miners in northern Ontario, the fishermen in British Columbia and Newfoundland, the tourist industry and our senior citizens show this Government how they really feel.

In closing, Sir, I urge this Government, if it feels there is that much in the Budget, to go to the people and let them decide.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Guilbault): The Hon. Member for Sudbury (Mr. Frith) has a question.

Mr. Frith: Mr. Speaker, I would like to say to the Hon. Member for Temiskaming (Mr. MacDougall) that, since we both represent ridings in northern Ontario, I believe we both recognize as well that we do have a cyclical problem in the mining industry at the present time. It is one which has happened before, and I am hopeful that if we have some long-term commitment with respect to the tax policy of the provincial Government, we might have some opportunity—

Mr. Blenkarn: Oh, come on.

Mr. Frith: I would just like to remind Hon. Members opposite that there was a Treasurer of Ontario by the name of John White, who represented the provincial riding of London—

Mr. Blenkarn: There was a Minister of Finance by the name of John Turner who screwed them up, too. Let us talk about Turner's famous budget which screwed the mining industry.

Mr. Frith: —the Hon. Member for Temiskaming, for research purposes, might inquire of Mr. John White about the mining industry and his response to the imposition of the provincial mining tax act changes of 1974—

Mr. Blenkarn: What about Turner's Budget? Did you read Turner's Budget?

Mr. Frith: —and the effect it had, more than anything else, on the downturn in the mining explorations field in northern Ontario.

Mr. Taylor: This is a federal House.

Mr. Frith: The Hon. Member for Temiskaming mentioned in his speech the fact that Brazilian ore—I would assume iron ore—can be imported at some \$10 less per tonne. He might be able to enlighten the House as to what position he feels the Conservative Party would take with respect to that so that we can open up the iron ore company in Schefferville.

Adjournment Debate

Mr. MacDougall: First of all, Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that the Hon. Member for Sudbury (Mr. Frith) has recognized also the mining industry in his own community. He refers to the provincial Government, Mr. Speaker. I have been very fortunate over the last number of years to be able to work closely with the provincial Government and the Minister of Natural Resources, which is much more than I can say for the Hon. Members on the government side. They have a tendency not to work together but to work separately.

With respect to Brazilian ore, all I can say to the Hon. Member for Sudbury is that the problems with which we are faced today are problems which have been built up over the last 20 years under the Liberal Government. That is where the blame lies. Over the last 20 years of the leadership of this government we have had problems with Brazilian ore, with Iron Ore of Canada and with other iron ore mining industries across this country.

Mr. Fisher: I wonder if the Hon. Member for Timiskaming (Mr. MacDougall) would be kind enough to tell us his views on the proposals of his colleague, the Hon. Member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie), in his own eyes the hopefully future Finance Minister? If the Hon. Member for Timiskaming thinks things have been tough for the last few years, they will seem like a picnic in comparison with what the Hon. Member for St. John's West is going to visit on us. The Hon. Member for St. John's West was quoted as saying that the next Minister of Finance has to be "mean, nasty and tough-minded". I am sure in northern Ontario that is a welcome piece of news.

Mr. Taylor: But fair and honest.

Mr. Fisher: I wonder if the Hon. Member for Timiskaming would tell us specifically if he agrees with the Hon. Member for St. John's West when that Hon. Member calls for means tests? Does the Hon. Member want to go back to that degrading experience in the same way that the Hon. Member for St. John's West wants? Or is he going to rebuke publicly the Hon. Member for St. John's West for phoney economics and for taking out the problems of the deficit on the backs of the poor?

Mr. Taylor: He has at least been fair and honest.

Mr. MacDougall: Mr. Speaker, my short answer would be that the people of Canada already have a mean Minister of Finance. All we need is an election, and we will be glad to let you know what we are going to do.

● (1800)

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 45 deemed to have been moved.