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largely a private sector agreement to come to the assistance of the Canadian Commercial Bank so that all sorts of small depositors, small business people in the Edmonton area, would not lose their shirts completely.

The Hon. Member knows, and ought to know, that the economy of western Canada is, to a large extent, in tatters, mainly because of the national energy policy. He knows that if that bank had gone bankrupt—and it would have had there not been assistance from Canadian banks, from the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation, from the Province of Alberta, and from the federal Government—all sorts of small business people would have lost everything. The damage would have been immeasurable in the Edmonton area. But we have managed to solve that problem on a temporary basis so that we can get things going again. There is no question about it, that bank will be able to be prosperous. I remind the Hon. Member for Yorkton-Melville that the people participating in the arrangement will be able to participate further in the profitability of the bank as they take up share warrants in connection with the arrangements.

This motion is perhaps the most ridiculous motion which has ever come before this House. I am indeed surprised that the Hon. Member for Laval-des-Rapides (Mr. Garneau) would ever bring a motion of this nature to this House of Commons. The Hon. Member complains that a budget has not come out as if a budget was the only thing a government does. Those Hon. Members have some idea that governments are here to make budgets. Surely governments are here to run the country. And this country is being turned around, and has been turned around from September 4 until now. A budget will be produced in due course. There is a lot which has to be done which does not and did not require budgetary help.

The Hon. Member for Yorkton-Melville, for example, said that when he went around the country he found that Canadians were tired of being oppressed by the central Government in Ottawa. He said there was no sense of co-operation and we cannot pass rules in Ottawa which are enforced in towns across the country such as Vancouver and Saint John. That is right. We understand that. That is why we have been able, for the first time in some 15 or 16 years, finally to get the provinces and the federal Government together. This way we can have a consensus on how we should proceed with medicare, education, retraining.

The Hon. Member for Kingston and the Islands (Miss MacDonald) made a deal with the provincial Ministers of Labour and Employment to get summer work for students in a new job-creation program, a program which is working darn fine in my riding. People are offering jobs to students for the first time because they now feel the Government of Canada understands their requirements. They want to co-operate, get aboard and be part of building Canada. They want to give the youth of Canada an opportunity. We have a Government that understands business, the provinces, labour and all those elements in the economy who want to work together. This motion says that nothing has been done about job creation, but that is just not so.

• (1550)

The motion goes on to refer to the economic confidence necessary for the realization of the hopes and aspirations of Canadians. Let us talk about economic co-operation. First of all, we have the provinces getting together. Bit by bit we are breaking down the trade barriers which exist between provinces. More important, the problems we have had with international trade, particularly with the United States, are being solved. That conference a week ago in Quebec City was the culmination of a whole series of negotiations which have been going on. Member after Member has criticized the Hon. Member for Vancouver East (Ms. Mitchell) with respect to the salmon fishing treaty on the West Coast. We know that he has been around the outposts of the West Coast bit by bit, getting advice with respect to the salmon treaty, and we now have an agreement which the previous Government had not been able to reach for years and years.

Mr. Manly: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that my colleague, the Hon. Member for Vancouver East (Ms. Mitchell), would not want to have attributed to her the responsibility for making the salmon treaty which was imposed on the people of British Columbia. It was the Hon. Member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser).

Mr. Deputy Speaker: That is not a point of order.

Mr. Blenkarn: I am very pleased that we now have recognition that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. Fraser) has been doing a first-class job. We have the recognition that we have a treaty that they could not organize in a decade. Why not? Because there was no sense of co-operation between Canada and its largest trading partner, the United States of America. We were concerned, and British Columbia was particularly concerned, with respect to the question of softwood lumber. We have already taken virtually one third of the American market for softwood lumber and we were very much in danger of having our lumber exports subjected to countervailing duty. That fear has gone. We were in danger of having our potato exports subject to countervailing duty, and that fear has gone. We were very much in danger of having our steel industry virtually banned from competition in the U.S., and to a large extent that fear has gone.

Members opposite talk about economic confidence. The business community has economic confidence when it sees a Government prepared to get tough and act and to be sensible with respect to trade matters. It is a Government which is prepared to consult. It understands how we must finance export trade. Papers have been produced for discussion with the business community concerning export financing through the banks and other financial institutions. They, too, can then participate the way they should in financing those exports. We will shortly be producing new methods by which the Government will use the financial institutions of this country to develop trade. To say that economic confidence does not exist because somehow a budget has not been produced is just utter drivel. The opposition says that this is not a long time to wait for a budget. Do you realize there was a Government elected