

ly unredeemed and Toronto has now had to put its transit fares up by 10.6 per cent with no help coming from the Prime Minister as he promised.

There is no serious job-creation program. There are perhaps 2,400 jobs coming in rural parts of the maritimes and in Ontario where the government wishes to take advantage of low wages and non-union conditions. According to the minister's predictions, unemployment will rise during the next two years and real wages will fall. Yet he is preaching restraint to the poor.

He opened his budget speech with a little sermonette which tells working people not to ask for more money. In effect, what he has said is that anybody who asks for more pay is doing his or her fellow worker out of a job. That is a very cynical and misleading sermon from one who is protecting his buddies, the bankers.

Real wages have been falling behind prices since 1978 and they are projected to fall even further; but the big five in the banks have increased their profits by 228 per cent in ten years and they are up 48 per cent this year. The cost of living goes up and up, the cost of food goes up, but the minister does nothing about it. Canada is exporting more raw food every year and importing more processed food every year. Many people in Spadina like to eat and the food bill goes steadily up.

Farms are disappearing in this country. The farming population 30 years ago was 16.8 per cent of the total population and, as of 1976, it had dropped by two-thirds to 5.1 per cent. Canada is at the point of becoming a country which does not produce enough for its own people to eat. I never thought I would live to see the day when Canada could not feed its own people.

● (1720)

The prices of heating oil and gas are predicted to go up by about \$500 to \$600 for the average family. That doubly wipes out the tax credit for low-income people about which the minister has talked.

However, what I am most concerned about is what will happen to the hundreds and thousands of people in Spadina who have been earning their living as factory workers and who face being laid off. I am thinking of Tony and Silvio from Italy with whom I worked in a box factory. I am thinking of Joe from Poland. I am thinking of Dave from Newfoundland. I am thinking of a great many others. There were also women in our factory. There was Anna Lisa from Germany. These people were all laid off at the beginning of the year. The box plant which had operated for over half a century was bought by MacMillan Bloedel, which was then bought by Noranda, which was then bought by Brascan. All that high level financial dealing was assisted by the tax write-offs this government created in previous budgets and which this budget continues. The effect of this wheeling and dealing in high finance has been to cause unemployment among the men and women with whom I worked for 18 years. These are middle-aged people with seniority they earned in their plant, and now some of them are out on the street. Some of them have temporary jobs.

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Some of them are starting in new places. They are middle aged and have no seniority. They have no protection against further lay-offs. This has been promoted by the previous budgets of this government and is continued by the present budget.

The Minister of Finance has no serious program for relocating phased-out workers. There is no serious retraining program. George Brown College has had to cut back its technical courses because the funding from this government has been progressively cut back for several years and is to be cut back further by this budget. There is no decent program of severance pay for workers laid off after years of service.

However, on the other side of the budget there are goodies for the rich. There is no excess profits tax levied against banks. The rate of taxation for people earning \$100,000 and over has been reduced from 65 per cent to 50 per cent. That is quite a bonanza. We are told that loopholes are being closed, but income exclusion, which accounts for half the tax evasions, has not been touched. Capital gains have scarcely been touched. Capital gains cost this country half a billion dollars last year. Income exclusions cost the country over \$6 billion last year. Almost \$7 billion in exclusions which go almost entirely to people earning more than \$100,000 a year have not been touched by the minister in spite of his trumpeting about an equity budget and tax reform.

Why do we have this pattern of injustice? I do not agree with those who suggest that the minister was careless, ill-informed, stupid or thoughtless. I think he is a very thoughtful man. I think he has a plan, so I looked at his booklet entitled "Economic Development for Canada in the 1980s". There I think I found the explanation for the hard fist he is swinging at workers. The fact is that Canada in the eighties and nineties is a place where this minister apparently does not think we will need workers. He does not think we will need men and women with some maturity, some training, some adaptability or responsibility. He does not think we will need men and women who are willing to work, to acquire skills, to organize in their unions for steady working conditions or to raise their families and build their communities. The minister does not think we need those people. Instead, he wants specialized migrants who will roam around the country and work on the projects his friends, the bankers, have decided they like.

For example, I refer to projects in the north, most of which are for construction, transportation and resource extraction. In the next five years \$60 billion—about \$1,200 per year from every Canadian man or woman who is working—will be given by this government to finance resource production and bulk shipments. This applies to 42 projects. There will be oil and gas pipelines to bring oil and gas, the minister says, to eastern Canada, but just as likely they will be going to the eastern United States. This transportation will mainly be for shipping Canada out. There will be bulk shipments for the export markets.

Coal shipments will be up 125 per cent, mostly to Japan. Fertilizer shipments will be up 78 per cent. But grain shipments will be up only 38 per cent, and shipments of all other things, including manufactured goods, will be up only 48 per