

*The Address—Mr. Taylor*

gram is being extended into July and following that the Government wisely, based upon the consultation process, should design the best possible programs for natives. Does the Member have any suggestions of what programs of that sort should look like?

**Mr. Taylor:** Madam Speaker, I thank the Minister for his question. I appreciate the opportunity to expand on the information that I was providing to the House in my short remarks earlier. I appreciate the indulgence of the House for allowing me to say a few words on these important matters.

Privatization is very important to me. Privatization is something that should not occur in areas of resources, utilities, the service sector where monopoly issues are at stake. But there are likely circumstances where privatization is acceptable. I will not dispute totally that privatization is a bad thing. Throughout Canada and around the world we are seeing efforts where services have ceased to become essential to the needs of the people of the country.

When something is essential or when it deals with our resources, government intervention, government activity, government ability to control the economics of it is imperative. I speak particularly for my people back home when I say that on the issue of potash, natural gas, electric or insurance these are things that should remain within the public domain. I thank the Minister very much for bringing that to the attention of my constituents.

On the issue of interest rates, yes, I believe that is within the domain of the Government, that it should be a priority of the Government arbitrarily to bring down the interest rates one, two or three points and should do so immediately. The fear of capital leaving the country can be contained by the use of exchange controls. A Government that is interested in helping to maintain and build the economy of the regions and the areas of this country can find ways to deal with this matter irrespective of the activities of American financial interests.

On the final point of Native Economic Development Programs, I think the very best sources of information are the Indian people themselves. The national and provincial native organizations must be called in regularly and be enabled to provide the direction and initiative that is required in the future and in the Constitution.

**Mr. Friesen:** Madam Speaker, I appreciate the reply the Member has just made. It is refreshing to hear the New Democratic Party restating its much more doctrinaire positions. It masked them successfully over the last ten years, ever since the Winnipeg convention.

Now we hear again a little more honest restatement of socialist policy, that the Government should own the major resources of the country. It should arbitrarily cap interest rates and have financial economies as in Kenya, Tanzania, Cuba, Hungary and Poland. They are great examples to follow in financial policy, Madam Speaker.

I was interested in the Member's comments regarding cutting—and he used the word cutting—the educational programs for native Indians. I would like to point out to him that the post-secondary program for our native people has increased in enrolment from 3,500 in the academic year of 1977–78 to this year's academic year of 15,000. The budget has increased from \$9 million from 1977–78 to \$130 million in 1988–89. It has still not been cut. If the Member wants to insist that the program has been cut, will he give some evidence to the House for his statement that the Government has cut that program?

**Mr. Taylor:** First, I make no apologies for being interested in a more caring and better administered economy. I make no apologies whatever for having that interest in my heart.

Second, on the matter of the Indian education programs, the people who are affected by those problems are the ones who are on hunger strikes or who are marching in the streets and occupying offices.

The Indian people know that the cuts are there and that they do not have access to the post-secondary system that they need. I think it is time the Government met with those people on hunger strikes and met with the Indian people who are concerned about the inadequate funding for post-secondary education. When the Government does that, then we can get down to talking about figures, the need and where we are going.

**Mr. Riis:** Madam Speaker, I listened with interest to the Hon. Member's brilliant presentation in his analysis of the situation which the country faces. I have a question for him.