

**Mr. Simmons:** That member is not in my party, but since he has already spoken, I feel as the other fellow who was elected that same day, that I should come a bit to his defence for the despicable display of arrogance we saw a few moments ago.

**An hon. Member:** Good old St. George's.

**Mr. Simmons:** If the hon. member is going to say it, he should say it right: Burin-St. George's. Before the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Baker) gets too carried away about the promises he says the Torry government has kept, let me remind him of some promises. Mr. Speaker does not have to take my word for it; he can take the word of the very reputable *Toronto Sun*.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Simmons:** "The Promises Go Down Drain". This is not my publication. This is *The Toronto Sun*, not exactly the voice of rural Newfoundland or rural Canada. It has not been known over the years as being a great proponent of things Liberal. I should like to refer to the version of *The Toronto Sun* for the benefit of the President of the Privy Council.

**An hon. Member:** He is not here.

**Mr. Simmons:** I realize he is not here. I saw him leave. I can well understand why he has to get out fast to go to certain other places, which we will not mention here.

**An hon. Member:** He is afraid of you.

● (2110)

**Mr. Simmons:** The promises go down the drain. Here is what *The Toronto Sun* said the day after this much lauded budget; this thing that has got the President of the Privy Council all worked up, giving him sheer jollies because it is so good, so magnificent, and so perfect. Here is the perfection. I will tell you all about it. Let *The Toronto Sun* tell you all about it. It says:

Income tax deductions for middle and low income families up to \$300.

Reality, he hit us with five tax increases.

Promise:

Cutbacks in unemployment insurance rates.

Reality:

Crosbie increased UIC; increased premiums paid by workers.

I will not take the time since I get no commission for this to read it all. But let me refer to more realities, and quote from *The Toronto Sun*:

It will cost more to drive your car, heat your home, smoke and drink.

It will make life longer, at least it will seem a lot longer.

Another reality *The Toronto Sun* outlines:

We may well be self-sufficient in energy by 1991 but at \$4.50 a barrel of oil by 1983 who will be able to afford to buy it?

**An hon. Member:** \$4.50 a gallon.

### *The Budget—Mr. Simmons*

**Mr. Simmons:** The paper says a barrel, but I am sure it meant a gallon. In Toronto everything is smaller, including the barrels. One more reality from the reputable *Toronto Sun* and I quote:

And nothing on income tax cuts for middle and low-income wage earners.

Shame! The minister across the way should be the very man to talk about consistency because he certainly will know about it. He preached and lectured us tonight about consistency, but he must have learned it from a book. I say to him, it took the Tories 16 years to get there. Enjoy it; enjoy it for another half hour. It will take the Tories another 16 years before the people of Canada forget what was in this budget.

Now that I have dispensed with the President of the Privy Council, let us come to something far some serious. I refer to the budget speech, because that is what I want to talk about tonight.

[Translation]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hon. member for Rimouski (Mr. Allard) on a point of order.

**Mr. Allard:** If the hon. member would allow me, I would like to ask him a question.

[English]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member is seeking permission to ask a question. Is the hon. member ready to accept a question?

**Mr. Simmons:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understood that is what he had said, and I would be pleased at the end of my few remarks to entertain any questions.

I want to come to what is for me a very serious document. I want to say to my good friend, the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie (Mr. Symes), that what I shall give, I hope, in this chamber tonight during my few remarks is not going to be so much the bias of a Newfoundlander, as he would suggest, but the concern of one Canadian who is not very pleased about what is in this document, and I suggest I perhaps would not feel much different were I from some other part of Canada, even from his own part of Ontario.

To understand this budget Canadians must first understand the man behind the budget. I wish he were here tonight, but that is not my choice, so in his absence I will proceed. I should perhaps take a little time to tell you and, through you, the people of Canada, something about the man who is our Minister of Finance (Mr. Crosbie), what makes him tick, and why he does not believe in Christmas. I have known him for years, even before it was my task, often pleasant, to shadow him when he was the Newfoundland minister of finance, and even before, I say to the misled member from St. John's, he showed clearly where his loyalties were when he cancelled, as the Newfoundland minister of finance—can you believe it—the mother's allowance!

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!