

Mr. Waddell: I am of the view that Hon. Members will listen to this woman. I am of the view that we will get together and enact co-operatively policies which will put her and people like her back to work.

Mr. David Berger (Laurier): Mr. Speaker, I do not have a very encouraging picture to paint either with respect to the actions of the Government. I do have a few suggestions to make. I would like to remind Hon. Members of a couple of campaign promises made by Government Members which, if implemented, might justify giving the authority to borrow that is sought.

• (1640)

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Senator Hébert has reminded us that there are almost 700,000 young Canadians who are unemployed today. If this were not enough, the Senate Committee has described this situation as "intolerable". The Committee has emphasized that this "intolerable" situation does exist.

In their action plan which they tabled last February, the Senate Committee members indicated that their public hearings throughout Canada has changed their way of thinking, adding that they had realized that a great many young people were living intolerable situation and they had to convince all Canadians of that.

When we examine newspaper articles across Canada, when we read the letters which we are getting in our offices, when we study the petitions signed by thousands of Canadians, we realize that the Senate Committee has indeed succeeded. Senator Hébert and his colleagues have managed to raise Canadians' awareness of the situation and convinced them of the need to solve the unemployment problem among young Canadians.

Mr. Speaker, we are told that some progress has been made. It is a fact that the economic situation in the world has much improved over the past couple of years, and that the employment picture in Canada has improved since 1982.

But does this mean that we have to be satisfied with the current situation? Can we live with 700,000 young Canadians being unemployed?

As I said, Mr. Speaker, the consensus is that no, that the situation is "intolerable". I could quote a passage from the editorial of *La Presse* listing the misfortunes of the Minister of State (Youth) (Mrs. Champagne), and we all know the sad story about the way the Government axed the Katimavik program even before getting the plan of action of the Senate committee. Then the Minister found out she no longer had a budget when the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) tabled the main estimates. Editorialist Jacques Bouchard wrote in the March 5 issue of *La Presse* that time had come to transfer the responsibility to somebody who would tackle urgent problems with more resolve. According to the editorialist, young people

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have every right to look forward to playing a more challenging role in our society.

[English]

Even the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, which has supported the budgetary policies of the Government, reported favourably on the Senate report. It asked where a society begins to address the dilemma, and went on to say—

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please. The Hon. Member for Gatineau (Mrs. Mailly) on a point of order.

Mrs. Mailly: Mr. Speaker, all I need is an indication from the Chair. Are we in the House supposed to comment on the debates and problems of the Senate? I am simply asking that question.

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please. Perhaps I may say a few words here. I am sure the Hon. Member is going to get to the borrowing Bill. I know that he is getting to the point.

Mr. Berger: Mr. Speaker, in general I am addressing the budgetary policy of the Government. I am addressing the lack of any kind of a coherent strategy to deal with the economy, and I am also trying to address the specific point of youth unemployment, which is certainly related to the actions of the Government and to the reason that we should not have any confidence in the Government and should not approve the budgetary policy or the request to borrow further money for the implementation of its misguided policies.

I was saying that *The Globe and Mail*, in an editorial of March 5, spoke approvingly of the report of the Senate and outlined in some detail some of the solutions that had been suggested by the Senate.

The Government seems to be at a total loss as to how to respond to the problem of youth unemployment. The Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) said several months ago that the Government has a program and promised to introduce a new program very soon. "Very soon" was the phrase used by the Minister of State for Youth (Mrs. Champagne) last February. Six weeks later, we have yet to see these new programs that the Government was going to announce.

I would like to suggest to Government Members a few items that they might consider. First, they have before them the Senate's plan of action. I would simply remind Hon. Members, as I said yesterday during Question Period, that a number of the Senate's recommendations do not even call for the spending of money. Even the penny-pinching Tories might find it within their imagination to implement some of the recommendations which do not call for the spending of money. If they wish to implement some of the recommendations that do call for the spending of money, they might look at a speech the Prime Minister made at the Montreal Chamber of Commerce in March, 1984. This speech was made even before the election campaign. At that time, the Prime Minister indicated how