

*Borrowing Authority*

to pay more taxes. This government wore out its welcome long ago. Canadians would not stand for another increase in income tax.

I would like to make this point, Mr. Speaker. We are faced with so many hidden taxes today the government really does not have a choice at all but to borrow from banks. It has exhausted the pension funds, the domestic and conventional sources and the domestic banks. The government must now go to foreign banks to beg for more money. That, Sir, should be outlawed in the constitution. It takes money out of the country. It takes resources out of our country. These are resources which are sorely needed in the energy field and which are needed to train our young people to prepare them for the twentieth century and the excitement associated with it. These are resources which are needed to maintain and manage an enlightened domestic program.

**Mr. David Kilgour (Edmonton-Strathcona):** Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Bill C-59, which, if enacted, would authorize the government to borrow \$14 billion for 1981-82.

I begin my remarks by noting, Mr. Speaker, that there is not a single member of the New Democratic Party present in the chamber.

**Mr. Knowles:** You know better than that!

**Mr. Kilgour:** The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) has come into the chamber, but he has had a chance to speak on this bill. I believe no member of the NDP is participating, at least this afternoon, as far as I can see.

**Mr. Knowles:** Were you here last night?

**Mr. Kilgour:** We have a new baby at home.

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

**Mr. Kilgour:** I am grateful for the applause, which I am sure is not meant for me. I am also glad that members opposite heckle me now because, believe me, by the time I have finished they will probably have left. They will not like what I am about to say.

I would like to discuss what \$14 billion really means. For most of us it is a number with nine zeros, which is completely beyond our comprehension. Let us use a three-bedroom detached home which costs \$80,000 as an example. This is obviously more than the average price of homes in some communities and possibly less in others. Unfortunately, it is not an unrealistic price for most people to pay for a home in many parts of Canada today. By my arithmetic, \$14 billion would buy 175,000 such homes. Incidentally, 175,000 single family homes, and I stress that, is enough to house eight out of ten people in a city with a population the size of metropolitan Calgary. It would house three out of four people in a city with a population the size of metropolitan Edmonton. It would house eight out of ten people in a city with a population the size of metropolitan Winnipeg, Quebec City or Hamilton. It would house almost 40 per cent of the population of Vancouver. Mr. Speaker, just think how much money that represents.

What we are really talking about in this bill is inflation. An increasing number of Canadians realize that is what we are talking about when we talk in terms of \$14 billion. That is why I believe more than 20 state legislatures in the American union have passed proposed constitutional amendments outlawing budgets for their federal government. The people in the United States and in Canada are beginning to realize that deficits resulting from bills such as the one before us are the reason for inflation.

I suggest that a large portion of this \$14 billion being asked for by the economic lunatics on the other side of the House will be ultimately printed, or, as they prefer to call it, "monetized", by the Bank of Canada. This will simply push the "on" button for the printing presses of the Bank of Canada. This is how the government covers its deficit. Euphemists call it the monetization of debt. This is what members opposite will do, if they follow their practice of the last eight years. I believe that had the majority of Canadians known what had gone on for the last year, in terms of printing money, they would not have elected a single Liberal MP in any riding in this country.

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

**Mr. Kilgour:** Of course, members opposite know that up to this point in time most Canadians do not know what printing money means. The government continues to rely on the fact that most Canadians do not know what it has been doing to the purchasing power of hard-earned money over the past eight years. What the government prefers to do is say that inflation is the fault of California, Japan, labour unions, business, opposition, and the fault of the member for Winnipeg North Centre. It prefers to blame anyone who is at hand.

I would like to show you what inflation can do to a country. I wish to refer to what happened to the German mark during the Weimar Republic in the 1920s. Many of my constituents are Canadians of German descent and I believe they know I am a strong admirer of what West Germany has done since the Second World War and the lessons it has learned from the kind of economic management members opposite have been giving us for many years.

In my hand, Mr. Speaker, I have a 100 mark note issued in 1908. The next one in this book is a 1,000 mark note issued in 1922. The next is a 5,000 mark note issued in November, 1922. The next is a—

**Mr. Lalonde:** A five million mark note?

**Mr. Oberle:** Do you want me to read it for you?

**Mr. Kilgour:** I wish you would.

● (1630)

The next note is dated November, 1922, and is for 50,000. It is getting more interesting. Here is one for February, 1923, which is for 100,000 marks. On October, 1923, a note for 100 million marks was introduced. The next one, dated December, 1922 is—what is "milliard"?

**Mr. Oberle:** Billion.