

Supplementary Borrowing Authority

of a job through no fault of their own and they do not qualify for welfare. They have paid into that insurance fund for many, many years and are unable to take advantage of something that ought to be there in place for them. That is the least that the Government can do, but even in that case it has faltered and failed to deliver.

One must ask why this Government does not introduce decent long-term job-creation programs which will have results for many decades into the future, such as, for example, a massive reforestation program. What part of Canada has been nurturing and husbanding its forests adequately? What part of Canada has a reasonable and sensible re-forestation silvaculture program attached to it? Virtually none. This must be done in order to continue to have a renewable resource in our forests. Again, this is not the kind of program the Government introduces.

Another example is the salmon enhancement program. We can look at mining exploration, site preparation and the placing of marginal farmlands into production. There is a great variety of programs that the Government could be introducing, but it continues with the simplistic make-work, look good programs that have resulted in the type of economic structure in this country which is inappropriate in many cases.

For too long we have looked to others to solve our problems for us. We have looked to the private sector. I frequently hear from my colleagues to the right who suggest that we should leave it to the private sector because they do everything so well. Consider what Dome Petroleum has achieved and how well Massey-Ferguson did. They have done an excellent job. We in this Party are certainly not looking to the open marketplace to solve our problems for us. It is time that we stopped looking to the American, Dutch or French corporations to solve our problems. Let us look to ourselves, let us turn inward for a while and say that we can solve our problems in this country. We can lead the way in solving our problems. We have looked to foreign corporations and others to resolve our economic difficulties for too long.

Let us examine western Europe and Japan to see what they do. Those governments have a goal, a strategy or a master plan that indicates the way their countries should be evolving. They do not do it on their own, it is not a government idea. They consult with labour, management and their various states or provinces to come to a consensus that recognizes the strategic advantages of the country to determine how they will proceed. They send out a very clear signal to the private sector, the local governments, provincial and regional governments, as to the direction in which the country should be proceeding. The western European nations have done this and Japan has done it. To this day they have not experienced the basket-case status of Canada. They have a concept of where they are going and they implement strategies to get there.

We can do the same thing. It is obvious to anyone who examines what our economic advantages are in this country. We have the existing vehicles necessary to accomplish this. We can use the tax system to encourage the strategic economic sectors of this country. In the short term, we can develop job-creation programs that will produce results later on, such as

re-forestation to build a sound economic forest resource base in Canada. We do not need to expand the deficit to accomplish that. We can look at our tax system, discover its faults and ask why it is that every year hundreds of Canadians who earn incomes well over \$100,000 pay not a single penny in income tax. Why is that? Should that not be changed? Of course it should. We should be plugging these loopholes so that those who ought to be paying taxes pay their fair taxes. All we ask is that there be a fair tax.

• (2040)

Mr. Blenkarn: If you don't earn a living, you don't pay taxes.

Mr. Riis: Listen to the bleating person over here who says, "If you do not make a profit, you do not pay taxes". Some things in life are self-evident. A person who makes \$100,000 or \$200,000 a year should be asked to pay some income tax, but this man does not think he should pay income tax. That is the Tory logic. The Tory base of argument and discussion.

During these very difficult times when we are attempting to raise funds to put people back to work in meaningful ways, is it not reasonable to expect that we would ask those in the upper income brackets to assist a bit more, to ask those folks making \$40,000 or \$50,000 a year in taxable income to simply add 2 percentage points on to that? If one made over \$200,000 a year, we would ask that that person's income tax be increased by 9 per cent. Is that being unrealistic? Yet the hundreds of millions of dollars which would result in a simple tax adjustment like that would put many Canadians back to work under meaningful job-creation projects. Then we should consider some of the waste which could be cut from the Government departments.

An Hon. Member: Cut the Liberal caucus.

Mr. Riis: Some people would call the Canada Unity Information Office a propaganda arm of the Government for it simply promotes Government advertising. I wonder how pleased those Canadians who are unemployed, or who are being threatened with the possibility of becoming unemployed, are to see these full-page ads in all the newspapers, costing tens of thousands of dollars, which state, "We are that close to energy-self-sufficiency." How does one feel, when one cannot put food on the table for one's children, to know that the Government is spending hundreds of millions of dollars on advertising to tell how wonderful it is? I will tell Hon. Members the best way to tell the people of Canada how wonderful the Government is: do something for the people of Canada. Do something as opposed to simply talking about some of these simplistic programs. Yes, there is a great deal of waste slush material which could be cut from the Federal budget. I suspect that no one would even know if it was gone. That, again, is what the Government needs to do.

I can say without hesitation that there are answers to our problems. In a recent speech in Hamilton, my leader laid out a recovery program for the country. Unlike our friends in the