

I told you that the proposals I was making had been studied by the Economic Council of Canada, and by Informetrica. Both are reputable think-tanks. The Economic Council of Canada is funded by the government and run by an appointee of Mr. Mulroney, Mrs. Judith Maxwell. In her latest report to the Economic Council of Canada she adopted my basic thesis, which is that we absolutely cannot do away with the deficit and thus eventually do away with the debt if we do not have a full-employment policy. She adopted my main comparative argument, which is that the countries that have a full-employment policy do best in terms of reducing the deficit by reducing unemployment and thus reducing the debt. It is a long argument. We are talking about a 200-page book. In this session I have only some 30 minutes left. I cannot read the whole book.

You senators opposite accuse us of not having alternatives. When I give an alternative, you will not listen. This, of course, is typical manipulation of the facts. You do not want to hear whether or not we have an alternative. In fact, you prefer not to hear our alternatives because all you want to do is parrot the lines, which is effective from the point of view of cheap publicity and effective within an overworked press that does not have the time to inform itself sufficiently. We do have alternatives. Read a little. It does not do any harm. Reading is not bad for you.

How a full-employment policy can be implemented in this country and at the same time be used to improve the skills of our working force and train young people to escape the jobs they have and go to better jobs is contained in my book in detail. For God's sake read it! If you do not read it, do not tell me I have not given you the details. It is your fault.

Senator Simard: It is too bad Trudeau did not have those policies in his years when inflation and unemployment were at double-digit figures. Did Mr. Trudeau have those policies? Did he put them into practice?

Senator Gigantès: No. I had not worked them out yet.

Senator Simard: Is this a new invention?

Senator Gigantès: It is not a new invention. Others have thought of it.

Senator Simard: Is it the product of a fertile imagination?

Senator Gigantès: It is not a fertile imagination, it is arithmetic. Of course, when you were Minister of Finance of New Brunswick you demonstrated that arithmetic was not one of your favourite subjects. When you were Minister of Finance you demonstrated that you were not capable without the help of people such as Senator Corbin who was then a Liberal member of Parliament from New Brunswick. You could not make both ends meet without help from the federal government, which was Liberal.

All I am pointing out is that you ask a question, you are given the answer and then you say that you have not been given an answer. It reminds me of a particular comedy in which there was a boxer who was not particularly good. He was going into the ring with another boxer who was clobbering

him with left hooks, and he was saying, "He does not have a left jab." I have given you the answer and you do not want to hear it because all you want to do, because it is easier and the press is lazy or overworked, is to say that we do not have an alternative. We do have an alternative, but you do not want to hear it.

I will continue with the alternatives. First, abolish the GST. Second, install a full-employment policy. There are many foreign models of how it can be done. All countries with a full-employment policy do well. This is typical know-nothing Tory behaviour. It does not suit them to listen, because if they listen they will perhaps feel a tiny smidgen more uncomfortable about lying as to what alternatives we have. Like Senator Poitras, it is much easier not to listen.

Senator Hébert: Senator David asked you a question and then he does not listen.

Senator Gigantès: Senator David asked me a question about full employment. For hours I read the details of exactly what that is, but they do not want to hear.

After those two principal features of a future Liberal economic policy for this country—that is, abolish the consumption tax, the GST, and concentrate on full-employment measures—we will then look at tax reform. Tax reform should and will feature corporate tax profits at the same level as those in the United States—not below, as they are here. They will feature graduated income taxes slightly higher than those we presently have here, and they will be lowered as the deficit is lowered. There you have it in full detail, and I bet that will be found in the Liberal platform. I will now repeat it in French for those of you who do not understand my accent in English. Perhaps you will not understand my accent in French either.

[Translation]

So I bet you the economic policy of the next liberal government will be as follows. If Canada still exists in two years, if you do not have destroyed it until then, I do not know.

See, you do not want to listen. You ask questions and you do not want answers. You want to go on parroting and repeating these slogans which the incompetent apprentice sorcerer who is the leader of the government whispers into you hears, this fellow who destroyed the Meech Lake Accord, him and his chief, because of their incompetence and their stupidity . . .

Senator Simard: What are you drinking now?

Senator Gigantès: Only water, my dear friend. I leave those strong drinks to your colleagues on the other side. And you have plenty of drunkards on your side. As for yourself, I would ask you to go sniff at truffles. To give you a break!

Senator Simard: I will read you a letter which most of the senators have received. It is dated October 17 and could not be more current. It relates much more to the TPS than those remarks of Senator Gigantès about Meech Lake, the debt of the Liberal Party and his future policies in an eventual liberal government in 2015. It is really current. It is an urgent letter sent to all Sears' customers. It is signed by W.J. Hilton.