

The Budget—Mr. Yanakis

information relative to drug and alcohol abuse on a national and international basis. The highest priority should be given to development of programs of prevention, with task-oriented research in this area.

• (2020)

Programs of behavioural science research would be undertaken which would focus upon Canadian cultural implications as well as psychological identification of personality abnormalities. In effect, we should seek answers to questions such as: What is the impact inherent in the rapid movement of young people across the country? What role does peer group pressure play in drug abuse? I could go on to outline additional questions that should be asked.

In addition, research would be directed to evaluate programs of treatment and rehabilitation already available in some areas of the country leading to identification and implementation of specific treatment facilities, including crisis centres, street clinics, therapeutic communities and industrial rehabilitation programs where required at the provincial level.

Research in the pharmaceutical and biochemical areas should expand simply beyond marijuana to include longer-acting new products or polymers to replace methadone; discovery of new and safer, longer-acting narcotic, alcohol, amphetamine, blocking agents to combat the euphoric effects of these drugs. We should also study the effects of drugs on locomotor, sensory and reflex systems as they apply to operating motor vehicles, and the effects of drug use on industrial productivity, etc.

Such an institute should be involved with the identification of innovative programs in the field of drug abuse, with consequent evaluation and implementation. An information centre would be an important component which would receive information from the World Health Organization, from American experience and from actual operating Canadian sources which would then be synthesized, evaluated and distributed to specific target audiences including elementary and high school students, teachers, law enforcement agencies, physicians, hospitals, parents, treatment and rehabilitation professionals including psychologists, public health personnel, voluntary agencies, organized community action groups, etc.

I feel that an important component of such an institute would be a national training centre to develop meaningful programs to train manpower to deal with the treatment and rehabilitation of drug abusers in crisis centres, hospital location departments, medical practices and other professional locations, halfway houses, therapeutic communities, etc. Finally, such an institute would be charged with identifying, describing and implementing, wherever required, programs relative to development of alternatives to drug and alcohol abuse by the young people of Canada.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Antonio Yanakis (Berthier): Mr. Speaker, I am glad to have the privilege of taking part in the debate on the budget that the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) so brilliantly presented, and to be able, on behalf of my constituents, to express my approval of the positive steps the

[Mr. Holmes.]

government has put forward so as to fight unemployment and reduce taxation in the interests of those who have been hit the hardest by successive rises in the cost of living.

The substantial increase in the basic old age security pension is undoubtedly one of the most welcome measures, for it benefits the group of people in the third age of life, one might say the golden age, who were the most affected by the loss of purchasing power of the dollar due to inflation.

The removal of tax from children's clothing, confectionery, soft drinks and cosmetics, and the lowering of customs tariffs, etc., have no doubt come at the right time, and I hope that the manufacturers will pass these benefits on to consumers.

In his speech, the Minister of Finance described it as a positive budget, aimed at holding back inflation and fighting unemployment, and he predicted that it would create 300,000 new jobs. This certainly augurs well, and should bring renewed confidence to industrialists and businessmen on whom we largely depend, since their investments are needed to bring about these new jobs.

In this connection, Mr. Speaker, I can say that the industrial expansion of the Berthier constituency has greatly benefited from subsidies from the Department of Regional Economic Expansion; in the last few years, several millions of dollars have been invested, and more than 2,000 jobs created. I hope that when these programs are reviewed soon, even more generous benefits will be granted to industrialists, to get them more interested in investing in areas that are suffering from the regional disparities that we all deplore.

On this subject, Mr. Speaker, I think it was stupid on the part of hon. members opposite to run a disparaging election campaign, the last time, charging the government with granting too much money to Quebec and giving this province more favours which were at the expense of the rest of Canada. That was untrue and the now Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) who was then Minister of Regional Economic Expansion did not fail to state the facts with the actual figures.

Mr. Speaker, there will soon be a statement made, on the government's new dairy policy. We know how hard it has been over the years for the dairy producers to operate without any hope of ever drawing decent profits from this industry. For the past couple of years, under the leadership of this liberal government, the situation has improved, but not enough to allow the dairy producers to keep up with increasing production costs and their own cost of living.

For some time, people have been complaining about consumer food prices. But, is it not the middle men who, most of the time, are pocketing these increases whereas farmers are left to fend for themselves?

In my opinion, Mr. Speaker, farmers do not receive their fair share of those increases and that is sheer inequity. We must once again make sure that farmers obtain a just and decent income.

I am pleased to note that the Throne Speech included a provision to the effect that the feed grain problem would be settled during this session, thus bringing to an end a