

the 1980s "a decade of opportunity rather than a decade of doubt."

Mr. Chairman, I will finish with just one sentence. Fifth, the Prime Minister promised to "enhance the security of every individual by helping those who most need assistance". He has neglected to do that. We are minus new capital gains tax provisions, energy tax credits, mortgage interest deduction, property tax deduction and energy savings for the people of Canada.

● (1530)

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Chairman, I am happy to take part in this debate concerning a taxation bill which once again will help the Canadian people while stimulating the economy. I hope that these tax proposals will be reflected in the 1980 tax returns of all Canadians. I trust further that, as soon as this bill is passed, all the members on this side of the House will welcome it as a beneficial impact on the economy.

Mr. Chairman, I listened very carefully to the member who spoke before me. He still seems unable to distinguish between a socialist party and a Communist party since he still associates socialism with communism. During the time available to me, I shall try to explain that on February 18 of last year, the Canadian people chose, not the capitalistic philosophy of the Progressive Conservatives nor the socialist doctrine expressed by the NDP, but rather a party whose objective was to Canadianize these industries. This is why, as a member of the Liberal party, I have always disliked the leftist or rightist parties which go by that name in European countries. As for us in the Liberal Party, our objective is not to belong to the left or to the right, but rather to extend the centre so that the aspirations of all Canadians, whether from the west, the centre or the east will be reflected in our social legislation and economic incentives. This is why I say that the philosophy of the Liberal Party aims at extending the centrist position, and this is why on February 18 of last year the Canadian people chose our party rather than one or the other of the two extremes.

I listened yesterday evening to the hon. member for Calgary South who told us about a trip which I also made as a member of the task force on the national trading company. The hon. member talked about the economy of Sweden, which has been administered for a long time by a socialist government, and he quoted the following figures: if you earn \$25,000 a year, you will pay \$13,000 in taxes, and you can be taxed at a rate of up to 75 per cent if you earn \$32,000, and at a rate of up to 85 per cent if your income is higher.

I have witnessed this situation and I think that my hon. colleague described it very well. He said that he bought a pair of galoshes for 159 kroner, to which I was also a witness. I told him, "John, if you had bought those galoshes in Canada, you

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would have paid \$10, because this is what I paid for galoshes before leaving for this trip."

**An hon. Member:** What are 150 kroner worth in Europe?

**Mr. Roy:** In Canadian dollars, 150 kroner are worth about \$50. I believe that this is a good illustration of what is the situation in Canada and how often we forget it.

I shall try to describe the pattern of the Canadian economy. During that trip, Mr. Chairman, I was proud to wear the Canadian flag, as I am proud today to wear a Canadian tie.

I was proud to see to what extent Canadians are well known for the reliability of their passport and also for the way they behave, for the role played by our embassies throughout the world, for the efficiency of our trade representatives in the industrial field. I would like to pay tribute to all those people for their outstanding dedication in representing Canada abroad. I would ask the parliamentary secretary who is here in front of me, to convey my congratulations to the people responsible for the excellent work they did and are still doing. I am speaking in the presence of the chairman of the special committee on the national trading company who was with me during that trip. We could see how anxious those people were to represent Canada as it should be. They are indeed good will ambassadors and worthy spokesmen for Canada's economic leaders.

I have other comments to make on the role played here by our commercial attachés who have visited all Canadian provinces as well. We also paid visits to the major Canadian cities where we met the industrialists and manufacturers with small and medium-size businesses, but the relationship between management and staff as we know it here in Canada—I do not want to reveal the contents of the report which will be tabled in the House but I would have liked to see our commercial attachés here in Canada show the same motivation as we have witnessed outside the country.

Mr. Chairman, I would rather restrict my comments to economic indicators and the progress made here in Canada. I will not use selective or partisan references, nor figures originating from political sources. The data and statistical tables I rely on were issued by the World Bank, by American statistics agencies and by the OECD, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. The significant aspect is that we are all aware that inflation is rampant, that it is an affliction which knows no boundaries, an evil found all over the world. But what matters as well after we have paid our taxes is the money left in our pockets to buy a house, appliances, food, consumer goods or any other products. I think that is what really matters and I will refer to economic indicators to depict Canadian conditions as they are. I alluded earlier to the role played by our trade representatives, our ambassadors throughout the world. Members of the official opposition are saying today that they are blind, deaf, that they lack objectivity or else that they are solidly anchored by