

the same time, try to solve a critical social issue, the shortage of low-cost housing. The NDP strongly advocates the withdrawal of the federal sales tax contained in the previous Budget. We are talking about a \$1.4 billion increase, which amounts to that much less purchasing power for Canadian consumers. We want a reform in the system—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the Hon. Member, but unfortunately the time allocated to her has expired.

● (1610)

[English]

Ms. McDonald: Mr. Speaker, if I may have just a minute, I think I could finish.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Agreed?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Ms. McDonald: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

[Translation]

Ms. Lynn McDonald (Broadview-Greenwood): We are calling for a tax reform that will make the rich pay a fairer share. There are now 8,000 individuals with revenues of \$50,000 or more who do not pay one single cent in income tax, because of too generous loopholes in our tax system. In the United States, individuals whose income is over \$30,000 must pay a minimum of 20 percent of their income. The corporate tax system must also be amended in order to help the Canadian economy.

Ten billion dollars is given away each year to corporations, in the form of grants or tax deductions. It would be preferable to require performance, in technical training for employees for instance or the purchasing of Canadian products, and new product research and development. In other words, jobs must be created here!

[English]

I oppose the Budget. It is irrelevant, it is divisive, and it should be defeated.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Questions or comments?

Hon. Roger Simmons (Burlington-St. George's): Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to speak in support of this Budget because it is a good Budget. It is a Budget that is right for the times. It is a Budget that will help the economic recovery across this nation, which will mean jobs for Canadians. This is a Budget for the poor people of this country. This is a Budget for small business.

I recall another Budget. Indeed, it was a Budget that was brought down in this House just a few days after I first arrived here as a Member of Parliament. I sat then on the other side. I remember well that Budget because it was brought down by one of my bosom pals, my good friend from St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie). I had watched him over the years in the provincial House of Assembly bring down many other budgets.

The Budget—Mr. Simmons

I knew his style. I knew his record for delivery. I knew his record for practising what he preaches. Therefore, in late 1979 I watched with great interest that Tory budget.

It is interesting to compare those two Budgets, the Budget of 1979 and the Budget brought into this House in the last few days. How different are those two Budgets? To show just how different they are, I refer to a couple of publications which, in their respective terms, reported in headline form their summation of what those Budgets represented. If you look at the latest edition of *Maclean's* magazine you will see a headline which says of this latest Budget, "Lalonde keeps his Promises". That comes as no surprise to those of us who know the man. He has listened, he has listened hard, he has listened well, and he has delivered.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I hesitate to interrupt the Hon. Member. There is a rule about quotations in the House. Members should be extremely careful in quoting newspaper or magazine articles. The words a Member quotes should be taken as being his own words. The basic reasoning for that word of caution is that only Hon. Members elected to the House of Commons express their opinions. If they choose to quote from newspaper or magazines, they make those quotes their own words. I say this, and I invite Hon. Members to exercise the privilege of quoting with extreme care.

Mr. Simmons: Mr. Speaker, I thank you, and I thank you particularly for the opportunity which your intervention affords me because I stand full square behind that particular headline, Lalonde does keep his promises.

There is another publication from which I want to quote, a quote which I will also stand by. I refer to a headline in *The Toronto Star* the day in December, 1979 when the Hon. Member for St. John's West brought down the Tory Budget. The headline that day, which quote I also take as my own and which I support because I know it to be the truth, read: "The promises go down the drain". That is not a Liberal MP writing the headlines; that is a Liberal MP reporting the headlines, one from *Maclean's* in which it judges the net substance of the latest Budget brought down by this Government and the other from *The Toronto Star* in which it judges the substance of the Tory Budget. One says the Budget keeps the promises that have been made and the one in 1979 says that the promises made by the Tories have gone down the drain.

What particular promises? If we are going to compare the two Budgets, we ought in fairness to recall some of what went into that 1979 Budget. We ought to recall also some of the promises preceding the bringing down of that Tory Budget by the Hon. Member for St. John's West. Before bringing down the Budget, the Tories had promised that there would be income tax deductions for middle and low-income families. They were very specific on that promise. They said there would be deductions of up to \$300. However, the reality, Mr. Speaker, was that there were no such deductions. In the Budget of the Hon. Member for St. John's West there were no fewer than five separate tax increases. How is that for keeping one's promises?