

*Borrowing Authority**[English]*

The only way we are going to bring down the deficit in the long run is by building a strong economy, strengthening the Canadian economy, creating jobs, bringing down the interest rate, and by putting people back to work. That is not being done in this Budget before the House today. The borrowing Bill is really part of the Budget, just like the Estimates are a part of the Budget. Instead, what we have seen is a high interest rate policy and the biggest tax attack in the history of this country on ordinary Canadians by the Conservative Party across the way. This big tax attack, which takes over \$700 out of the pockets of ordinary Canadians, is put on top of the huge tax increases from 1984-88 which cost the average family \$1,000. On top of that, we will soon have a national sales tax which will add another \$1,000 to the taxes of ordinary Canadians.

• (1240)

Never in the history of this country have we seen a political Party that has taxed, taxed and taxed the ordinary Canadian people as much as the Conservative Party across the way. This big tax attack will hit ordinary Canadians. It will not hit the friends of the Government, the rich, the millionaires or the corporations.

[Translation]

And my friend the Hon. Member for Lévis (Mr. Fontaine) agrees with me that his Party is a Party for the rich and big corporations. That is why his friend Mr. Bourassa has now criticized Mr. Mulroney's Conservative Government. It is the biggest tax impact in Canadian history!

[English]

I say to you, Madam Speaker, it will not be long before Canadians will say, "We are not going to take this any longer", and we will see the beginnings of a tax revolt in this country. How long can you have ordinary people just paying, paying and paying because the Conservative Party across the way has no imagination in respect to creating jobs and generating wealth in this country, a Party that is afraid to take on the whole question of interest rates and bringing down the bank rate because they are trying to let their friends, the corporations, get off scot-free?

[Translation]

Madam Speaker, I saw many Hon. Members from Quebec on the other side of the House and my friends

from Quebec are aware of the regional development situation. The Budget of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) is another reason we are now prepared to discuss a bill for \$25-billion borrowing authority. But the Finance Minister's Budget we have here reduces regional development expenditures for the Atlantic provinces in 1988-89. We spent \$461 million. But in two years, only \$410 million will be spent on the Atlantic provinces, the poorest in Canada, a reduction of \$41 million for Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick.

Madam Speaker, these are the poorest provinces with an unemployment rate that is too high, but regional development expenditures are reduced. Even in Quebec, where the most recent unemployment figures are still much too high, federal expenditures are cut. In 1988-89, the Government spent \$352 million, but in two years, Madam Speaker, your Government will spend \$260 million. This is a drop of almost \$100 million for the Province of Quebec. Many regions of Quebec have an unemployment rate above 12 or 13 per cent.

Where I come from, western Canada, there is also a reduction of \$12 million. This year, the Government will spend \$362 million, but in two years, it will be \$350 million, Madam Speaker.

And the same goes for Ontario. Ontario is often considered a very rich province, with a lot of money, but I know very well that my friend from Timmins—Chapleau (Mr. Samson), in northern Ontario— It is not a rich region. There is a lot of poverty and unemployment. That region is quite poor. Our country needed programs for northern Ontario and some regions in eastern Ontario. But look at the figures! Even here in Ontario, there is a reduction of nearly \$50 million for regional development.

In two years, Ontario will get \$59 million, but this year, it was \$107 million, Madam Speaker.

And I think of Sudbury and Timmins in northern Ontario and places like Hawkesbury in eastern Ontario. There will be a negative reaction against the federal Government for regional development budget cuts.

Despite this, we have many millionaires here in the Conservative Party who agree with a Budget that increases taxes for corporations by only \$1 billion but by \$8 billion for individuals.