

*The Budget—Mr. Baker*

government here that could dish out these so-called processor licences as the Newfoundland Government does, not to process one single thing with it. That same philosophy, or lack of philosophy, has permeated the Newfoundland government in every other natural resource in the province.

I should like to say a few words now about a specific section in the Budget that deals with job creation. Unfortunately, there appears to be in this Chamber an attitude held by a small "c" conservative community, pontificated by the Progressive Conservative Party of this country, that direct job creation should be done away with, in other words, outlawed. I could never understand that rationale. I could never understand how people can be so isolated, so parochial, so unknowing or uncaring as to advocate such a drastic action. The P.C. Party has that philosophy. In its last government the Progressive Conservatives wiped that out, hook, line and sinker. It went straight out of the window. It was said of the infamous P.C. Minister of Finance who wiped out direct job creation that if brains were dynamite, he could not blow his own hat off. There is a reality in non-industrialized areas in the poor provinces, in rural areas, that private enterprise cannot provide jobs. There is no private enterprise, so how can it provide jobs?

There is also very little provincial government money spent. There is no program, no source of funding available to small rural areas that have a right to exist. They have a right to the basic services that people have in other areas of Canada. They have a right to a community building. Take, for example, high unemployment areas where work is seasonal. That is a great section of our country, particularly as it affects the fisheries. Suppose the fishery has been a failure, as it was this past year in Newfoundland? Even if it were not a failure, the philosophy of doing away with direct job creation programs says there will be no jobs in these areas, none at all. It means that no community will get a wharf, a community hall, a community stage, or a basic water system. What kind of a creature in politics today would be so cruel and so uncaring as to advocate the discontinuance of these funding mechanisms? Yet we see this opinion present in this Chamber continually. It is also present in certain sections of our society. What about the armchair experts sitting back in their comfortable surroundings? They have convinced the P.C. armchair experts that these programs must be discontinued. Lucky for the poor in our rural areas that this Liberal Government held the line on direct job creation.

Instead of holding the line, I believe this Government should embark on a completely new initiative and pump hundreds of millions of dollars more into summer student employment programs and Canada Works Programs. Never mind talking about national recovery programs. A national recovery program for a slipway in a community like Dark Hole would cost \$14,000. What about a national recovery program for a water line in Herring Neck in my riding? It would cost \$89,000. What about a national recovery program for a water line in Whale's Gulch? It would cost \$100,000 so that children can drink non-polluted water for once.

For those who are cruel enough, crude enough, and unchristian enough to advocate an end to direct job creation, let me ask them if they would like to change places with any number of men today who kneel by their beds every night and pray for a job on a Canada Works Program that pays \$180 a week so that they can feed their children? Let me ask that same armchair expert if he would like to live off welfare payments in the Province of Newfoundland, the lowest welfare payments in all of Canada. If you have five children over 18 years of age and not working, not one penny goes into the household for them. What about living in the widow's shoes at \$278 a month? The same type of armchair expert who advocates the end to these direct job-creation programs which go into the rural and the high unemployment areas where there is normally no employment, that same type of armchair expert also advocates among other things that Newfoundlanders should not be allowed to kill seals! Again, you could put yourself in the position of dozens of my constituents this week who are walking or crawling over the ice with a white sheet, or white underwear, over their heads trying to kill a seal to feed their hungry children. Some of these fellows are making less than \$100 a week on unemployment insurance. On and on it goes.

I think we should be charitable enough to repeat the prayer of the Sioux Indians, which goes:

Oh Great Spirit, keep me from ever judging and criticizing a man until I have walked in his moccasins for two weeks.

When we pass judgement on direct job-creation programs, let us remember that.

Let me say in conclusion that when the off-shore Newfoundland government members have some free time from taking trips down south, I wish they would put themselves in the moccasins of the unemployed on the northeast coast of Newfoundland.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Herbert):** We have a ten-minute period for questions and comments.

**Mr. Doug Lewis (Simcoe North):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to enter into the debate on the Budget of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Lalonde) of February 15, 1984. I am pleased to represent the views of my constituents of Simcoe North. During the course of my remarks I shall bring to the attention of the Chair those parts of the Budget which address the concerns of my constituents, those parts which missed the mark, and I hope I can make some positive suggestions.

The interesting thing about the economy of Simcoe North at the present time is the sense of confidence which I feel in the small business community. The Canadian resilience is evident. The small business community has bounced back and it is cautiously optimistic. Small business in Simcoe North weathered the Liberal recession, which brought high interest rates, bankruptcies in the farming and small-business communities and record high unemployment. Self-confidence is returning, but I suggest to government Members that the self-confidence of which I speak is internal to the small-business community. It does not translate into any sense of confidence in the