

In contrast the Liberal minority government of 1972 to 1974 was one which presided over the total abandonment of responsible fiscal management, and the cost to Canada of the Liberal-NDP alliance was staggering. The fiscal damage that was done during that period tied the hands of the Clark government, and Canada could no longer afford the economic compromises which the Liberal minority government found so expedient to their political survival. The Clark government had taken a stand on basic economic principles, principles it was unwilling to compromise.

● (2020)

I listened to the Winnipeg radio station, with the NDP finance critic wailing and moaning about interest rates. He forgot to tell the people what happened in the Twenty-ninth Parliament with the coalition between the NDP and the Liberal parties. The NDP is directly responsible for the high interest rate problem that we have today. Their policy is high interest rates through uncontrolled government spending.

I also made reference to the Liberals' TV advertisements. That was one of the most cruel hoaxes I have ever seen played on the Canadian people regarding interest rates, Mr. Speaker. It clearly indicated that the Liberal party do not have the principles or the ethics of an alley cat. That was one of the most cruel hoaxes I have ever seen played on the Canadian people. Unfortunately it was a member from Manitoba, the hon. member for Winnipeg-Fort Garry (Mr. Axworthy), who was used in the TV ads night after night, telling the people that interest rates should not have gone up. Mr. Speaker, why do they not bring them down now if they should not have gone up?

Then there was the utter nonsense we had to listen to in the last Parliament from the Liberal finance critic, now the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Gray), who comes from Windsor. When he was asked how he would reduce interest rates, "Oh" he said, "I will introduce an industrial strategy." When are we going to see this industrial strategy that will lower interest rates? We are not going to see it, Mr. Speaker.

The name of the Liberal party should be changed to the B & B party. In the 1960s it was bilingualism and biculturalism that was going to be the complete answer to all the problems of Canada. That did not work. It was only a limited success. Now the Liberals are taking us into the 1980s. We will have to find a new B & B name for them—the Balkanization and Bankruptcy party. I think that would be a very appropriate name.

Mr. Collenette: How about the winning party?

Mr. McKenzie: Yes, Mr. Speaker. A Liberal member just said, what about the winning party?

Mr. Collenette: Try it sometime.

Mr. McKenzie: The Liberals won through their unscrupulous tactics on TV ads and what have you. The Liberals certainly do not know anything about running the country but

they know how to win an election, unfortunately. But the Canadian public is getting wise to them.

Bill C-17 does not cover a number of areas that were covered in the budget we presented in the last Parliament. It would have assisted development in eastern Canada. It offered specialized tax incentives for firms investing in Atlantic Canada and the Gaspé. Tax incentives were offered to encourage the construction of new Canadian-built fishing vessels. Fifty million dollars in job-creation funds were offered to assist eastern Canada in projects related to economic development. I hope the Liberal government will consider those areas in the very near future.

It is all very well to bring in little band-aid programs, but in countries or, for that matter, provinces that have nationalistic, leftist, or extremely strong bureaucratic tendencies, successful and striving entrepreneurs are made to feel uncomfortable. That is the situation we have witnessed in this country in the last few years. It was experienced also in the eight years the NDP were in power in Manitoba. Most people have no idea of the extent to which businesses are affected. It drives out investment money and stops business expansion because they simply do not trust these socialist governments. I shall not read into the record tonight things that I have read into past debates in other Parliaments about the amount of investment money and businesses that have been driven out of this country.

It is easy to see that Bill C-17 is not the total answer. It is a very, very small bill that will temporarily assist a few thousand business people. I have read the figures from this particular document into the record a number of times, Mr. Speaker, showing the amount of money driven out of the province of Manitoba in the eight years it had an NDP government. I have also read into the record a number of times the amounts of money driven out of this country under Liberal governments over the years.

The unadjusted unemployment rate as of March is running at 8.6 per cent, or almost one million people. This shows that over the years the policies have been absolute failures. The government managed to con people with their TV ads and slick promotions. We cannot take that away from them because they have been very successful with it—but that is about all they have been successful with. In 1970, Mr. Speaker, Canada enjoyed the third highest standard of living in the world; in 1978, we were eleventh, and today I believe we are somewhere about fifteenth, so our standard is dropping steadily under successive Liberal governments while problems for business are mounting.

I should like to return to the *Mandate* I referred to earlier and the comments that are made about the problems of small business. I hope that the minister will take note of these tonight. I should like to quote another letter that appeared in the *Mandate* recently as follows:

Please be advised that we are wasting a lot of time and gaining nothing for the small business with regards to the Small Businesses Loans Act. I have pleaded with (1) my bank, (2) the Co-op Credit Union, (3) The Provincial Treasury