

Family Allowances Act, 1973

Canada. It wants to take \$1.61 a month away from the children of Canada. What kind of thinking is that? I say to everybody across Canada that they should not think Mr. Pitfield is the exception. That is the unfortunate part of it. He is the rule of the Government of Canada. How can the Minister of National Health and Welfare stand in the House of Commons to try to justify such an action with the expenditures that she and others who sit in Cabinet have approved? Mr. Pitfield is only one example.

● (1740)

Let us talk about the jets which they just bought for \$26 million. They are taking \$100 million away from the children of Canada and they are spending \$26 million or more than a quarter of that amount on jets. Does anyone in the House of Commons think that that is appropriate action? I ask any Minister whether that is the right and proper thing to do. Is that the way to finance things in Canada? They take \$1.61 a month away from every child eligible for Family Allowance and spend a quarter of it on jets. They spend a quarter of a million on Michael Pitfield and on long-term superannuation contracts. They allow the postal service to lose \$500 million a year.

I give up with this Government. I can stand in the House of Commons and point out these things, criticize and waste my time. I have statistics here whereby I could project the Government's deficit of \$26 billion across the Canadian population and tell each working Canadian what it is costing him or her. I could do all these things, but what is the point? The Government is in control and it will not listen. It will not do anything. It has all the mannequins across the way who stand up when they are told to stand up to justify these policies, and we are left to criticize.

I know this thing has to be brought to an end. But they will not do it. They will take away \$1.61 from each child in Canada. They will continue to spend to the extent of a \$26 billion deficit. They will continue to give favourite public servants like Michael Pitfield increases, while cutting back on other public servants. They will continue to buy jet aircraft and fly them all over Canada. They will continue to spend \$5 million on Canada's birthday and change the name from Dominion Day to Canada Day by mischief in the House of Commons. We will not stop them in the House of Commons, but I say to Government Members that we are putting it all down and I hope the people of Canada listen. I hope they are putting it all down, because the day of reckoning will come. When that day comes, even though the Minister of National Health and Welfare does not have to come out of her safe seat in the Province of Quebec and does not have to worry about a 44,000 vote majority, let me tell her that there are other ways for the people of Canada to get back at that kind of activity. There are other ways for the people of Canada to show the Minister and her whole Government what they think of the way they have governed the affairs of Canada.

I can only say to the people of Canada that they had better start thinking about it now and they had better not be fooled. When the day of reckoning comes, they want to remember things like the \$1.61 taken away from the children of Canada.

Also they want to remember things like the \$26 million spent on jets. They want to remember the \$5 million they spent on firecrackers on Canada's birthday. They want to remember all things like Michael Pitfield and his \$250,000-plus benefit.

All Hon. Members on this side of the House, and certainly my Progressive Conservative colleagues, will remind them day after day what the Government is doing. It will not get this Bill through the House and passed without it being recorded and registered with the people of Canada what the Government is doing and why it is doing it. We will go on and on from this day forward.

Let me address the following remark to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. I have never had the chance to address her in the House. The Minister does not understand the situation in Canada. She stands up in the House of Commons and pretends to understand the problems in the health care field. What will she do to solve the problems in the health care field? She is going to get rid of the physicians of Canada. She is going to clamp down on physicians and make things more difficult for them, and they will want to move to the United States of America and other places. That is how she will control and improve health services, and this is what she will do with social services. She will stomp on anyone who gets out of line, because she and her Government are in control. I like them to do as much of that as they can because they are hurting the people of Canada, and the people of Canada are finally realizing how the Government is hurting them and how the Government has stooped to the level of taking away \$1.61 per month from our children. They are taking it away to finance this nonsensical purchase of jets, nonsensical contracts with senior public servants like Michael Pitfield and a variety of unnecessary purposes.

Our job—and I am sure my colleagues share this view with me—is to point these out continually. We will not let them get away with that stuff. The people of Canada now realize, as we get into the economic crisis, the mistakes they have made. They cannot cover them up with some phony six and five program. They cannot pretend that they are being very careful with the income and assets of the Canadian Government—the property of the Canadian people—simply because they are cutting back on essential benefits and services like health care, Family Allowances and old age pensions.

This is what we are reduced to in the House. Perhaps we are pointing out the obvious, but I think Canadians will forgive us if, after all these years of Liberal rule and all the fraud they have committed on the Canadian public, we are not taking any chances this time.

We have another Bill before the House about Old Age Assistance. Let us remember the election campaign when they promised \$35 a month to senior citizens. They said, "Look, this is what we think about senior citizens, those deprived persons in Canada—we will provide them with this benefit of \$35". Then they turn around in the House of Commons and come up with Bill C-131 to reduce that benefit. I could refer to a long list of Government promises, but I do not have that