

Borrowing Authority Act

of the unemployed and the senior citizens is morally unacceptable.

Mr. Lanthier: Mr. Speaker, I should like to comment on some points made in earlier speeches when it was mentioned that the young people were left out in the budget. At least, we will not leave an unfortunate legacy of failures and borrowings for which the young will have to pay. We will try to balance the budget so that our young people will not have that legacy. I repeat once again, they will not have to pay our debts later. I hate to look back to the past, but the previous administration . . . I was not a government member then but I was a victim and I can assure you that if at least I can leave our books and our government in order, that will be a good point for our young people.

Secondly, we want young people to get out of that vicious circle where they alternate between temporary jobs created with government grants and unemployment insurance. Our young people now lack dignity. We need permanent jobs and private enterprise alone can create them . . . We are generous. We do not mention that the Liberal government is responsible. We do not lay any charge. We say that the government cannot create permanent jobs and we trust private enterprise. I come from the private enterprise sector, I can assure you that we take those measures for the sake of young people. Those are concrete and direct steps which the government has taken in the last budget.

Mr. Lapierre: Mr. Speaker, this is precisely the kind of speech I like to hear. When he says that we will have something in store for young people in future . . . but today, at this very moment there are 432,000 of them who have nothing. In the meanwhile, he only provides them with welfare benefits. Is that what the Parliamentary Secretary is offering to young Canadians? They do not have jobs. We will have to wait for his so-called private enterprise to hire all of them. That is fine, Mr. Speaker, but it is only smoke. It is a smoke screen which he puts up in front of the young people. And despair is the only thing they will inherit from him. He will be responsible because if these children cannot have . . . his own children will receive an adequate education because they will be able to pay for it but those who do not have access to education today will never forgive you. It is a high cost to pay to keep our books in order, and it is unacceptable, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Questions and comments are over.

[*English*]

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I have waited some time for the Government to bring forward this borrowing Bill. The House will recall that prior to Christmas, as part of an arrangement to be made, there was an agreement that the Government would bring in its borrowing authority legislation as close as possible to its Budget and its fiscal plan.

It has done so and I am grateful that the Government has lived up to its end of the agreement.

The reason we asked for that agreement is that it seemed necessary to see all aspects of the economic package at once so that we could compare and reasonably discuss the Budget on one hand, the fiscal plan of the Government as it affects the raising and dispensing of taxes and tax money on the other, and of course the requirement for borrowing.

In my opinion there are certain things that must be said, and if I appear to be thinking out loud it is because I am doing just that. I do not have volumes of prepared text before me because what I want to say does not require volumes of prepared text. Rather, it is a view of Canada that I happen to believe has been missed by successive Governments for many years and is being missed again by the present Government.

I read the Budget with interest. I must admit that I listened to the Budget with somewhat less interest because it was long, somewhat laboured, and a bit boring. However, I read it to see if the Budget, the working papers or the background documents referred to what was really wrong in the country. I must say to you, Sir, that I could not find what I believe to be wrong in Canada at the moment referred to even in the most passing way in any of the documents. The Budget is as traditional as any Budget I have seen in 18 years of political life. It is a tax grab and nothing more. There is no innovation in the Budget. There is nothing that recognizes the reality that is Canada in the Budget. To be quite honest, there is no new direction for Canada. There is no recognition of the problems we now face as a country. There is no recognition of the problems we will face as a country, and there is no carefully analysed document that would indicate what the Government anticipates would be the impact of its new direction, this direction it calls new.

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The Government asks us to allow it to borrow more money. In order to determine whether it is appropriate to borrow more money, we have to take a look at how the money the Government now has is going to be spent. I do not want to go into the kind of detail that many others have. I recognize that the Government has done a number of things that are about as traditional as they could possibly be. The Government has raised taxes. Where did the Government go to raise those taxes? The Government went to the working families of Canada. The Government did not even have the necessary intestinal fortitude to follow up on the Prime Minister's (Mr. Mulroney) own commitment to bring in with this Budget a tax on those who have for many years been able to accumulate substantial sums of money without ever paying a single solitary cent in income tax. The Government then decided it would add a surtax on those who are earning in excess of \$40,000 a year. As one of those individuals, I do not object to paying a little more in order to put the "house" in order so to speak.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!