

Canadian Economy

exporting jobs? It was exporting products manufactured here. In the case of Guatemala, the equivalent number of man-years was 1,037. Surely the opposition parties are not against that type of employment. That is not being said directly, but there has been an indication that it should not be done. There has been an indication that rather than manufacturing equipment and selling it in Indonesia and Guatemala, we should be producing and stockpiling nickel in Canada that cannot be sold.

At the present time there is a problem in Sudbury, but at the same time tremendous work is being generated as a result of the export of equipment to INCO projects internationally. The New Democratic Party almost condemned INCO the other day in this House. That company raised over \$900 million in five years in private capital markets. This capital was raised in six countries, and involved dealing with 27 banks. Surely Canadians should be proud of this kind of thing, rather than looking upon it as something evil and generating bad news. The average young Canadian will have to look on business and the generation of profits as something which is healthy.

Business must do a better job of selling itself in the coming years. I believe that business is finally realizing that Canadians need to be told about the benefits of profits. When money is made in a company, people will continue to work and products will be sold. When money is lost and products cannot be sold, people are put out of work.

There are problems in the manufacturing sector. Various industrial strategies must be developed. The current move of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) in travelling around the country in order to have private conferences with the individual provincial premiers makes a great deal of sense. The leaders of the two levels of government can sit down quietly and discuss basic issues. The Prime Minister has indicated that there may follow a major conference of first ministers to explore further the current problems relating to the economy.

An hon. Member: It is a little late.

Mr. Martin: It is not a little late. The Export Development Corporation will assist in financing \$2 billion worth of export contracts next year, as against \$50 million only eight years ago. Is that a little late?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Martin: There are no positive suggestions emanating from that side of the House. If hon. members opposite cannot run the RCMP out of the country, they will work on something else.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Martin: They are desperate for an issue, and in their desperation they spend three hours every morning huddled like the members of a football team which has not yet won a game,

in order to figure out what to ask in question period in order to grab the next headline.

Some hon. Members: Right on!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): Order, please. I regret to inform the hon. member that his allotted time has expired.

Mr. J. Robert Howie (York-Sunbury): Mr. Speaker, I have no problem in agreeing with those parts of the motion before us which criticize the inadequacy of the government's program to overcome the massive and persistent unemployment which is especially severe among the 18 to 30 years age group. In the course of my remarks I am going to make some suggestions as to how the government can improve its performance in my constituency, my province, and particularly in Atlantic Canada.

Clearly our objective must be to recover and maintain the real economic growth potential of our Canadian economy while achieving full employment and stable prices. This is a most worthy objective. It is an extremely good goal, and even if it is not achieved, by moving in that direction we can greatly improve our economic performance.

For the past decade our economic performance has deteriorated. There may be more than one million Canadians out of work this winter, and inflation continues to sap our economic strength.

One of the most disturbing bits of news has been the drop in productivity and our competitive international trading position. Our \$10 billion deficit on trade in manufactured products has been caused in part, although not totally, by Canada's failure to keep abreast of technological improvements.

A deterioration in our trade position is perhaps the most important shift which has taken place in our economy. We are consuming more than we are producing, and we are borrowing foreign money to make up the difference. I feel there must be a massive effort to assist Canadian business through tax incentives to attain technological breakthroughs in fields where we have an inherent advantage. Clearly, with the resources of people and money available to us, there is a need for selectivity in this program. There is a need to concentrate on areas where we have an inherent advantage. These fields include agriculture, our fresh water supply, the resources of our three seas, and those industries drawing upon our mineral, chemical, and forest wealth. Farm machinery and mining equipment are examples.

An imaginative taxation policy can do much to induce small and large businesses to improve their technology, and its application to industry, to increase our gross national product and, through planning, to enable Canadian products to re-enter and expand in the trading markets of the world. It is essential Canada restores its technological advantage in the production of goods for export if we are to maintain our present standard of living and create good jobs for Canadians without serious social disruption.

The federal government programs of Canada Works, Young Canada Works, and Local Initiatives, have been important