

*The Budget—Mr. Allmand*

revenue that is given back. He might help demand if he did away with this Canadian ownership tax. He would also help consumer demand if he did away with the 1 per cent increase in the federal sales tax. This is a regressive tax which hurts everyone. This increase in the sales tax will take \$365 million which is needed out of the economy.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, the Government is running on borrowed time. One indication of this is the \$300 million which was earmarked for job creation. A further breakdown of funds shows that the Province of Ontario, with 421,000 unemployed, received \$56.4 million. In comparison Quebec, with 416,000 unemployed, received \$85.9 million. Ontario has more unemployed than any other province. It received \$26,320,850. Of this, \$18,400,000 odd went to Liberal ridings with less than \$3 million going to Conservative ridings under the Special Employment Initiatives Program.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I regret to interrupt the Hon. Member but his time has expired. The Hon. Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce-Lachine East (Mr. Allmand) for debate.

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce-Lachine East):** Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that the biggest economic issue throughout Canada and the western world is unemployment, especially youth unemployment. For the past four years this has been my major preoccupation. Between 1980 and 1982 I served as the chairman of the task force on employment opportunities for the eighties. Since early 1983 I have served as Chairman of the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration which has been studying a reference dealing with unemployment.

Recently a number of members from that Committee attended an OECD conference on the subject of employment growth in the context of structural change. Having listened to many groups, experts, educators, trade unionists, business people and others involved in the field, I have come to the very strong conclusion that double-digit unemployment is not necessary and not inevitable and, with the right policies, co-operation and political will, we can make great strides in bringing down that high unemployment rate. There are lots of jobs to be done everywhere in this country at all levels. They are not in place because they are not being financed. There are people to be helped, resources to be developed and services to be provided. Where are these jobs and how do we get them?

I will give a few examples from areas in which I have worked. There are many examples of shortages of skilled, committed workers. As a former Solicitor General I saw that in the area of corrections we had and still have parole and probation officers carrying caseloads of 60 to 1 and 70 to 1. Most people suggest such case loads should be about 30 to 1. We have shortages of policemen in this country, especially specialized policemen working in preventive policing and on youth squads. In areas of special education we are lacking people to help educate handicapped people, slow learners and the blind. We are short of people to work in areas of alcohol and drug rehabilitation, recreation and leisure. There is a great

shortage of people to work with the aged and with health care, preventive and curative.

In my work with the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs this week I have heard witness after witness indicate that there are shortages of skilled and semi-skilled workers in the health field. There is much work to be done. People are not being taken care of because the trained employees are not there to do that job. With respect to literacy and retraining we hear a lot of talk about the need for retraining during the structural change we are going through. There are lots of jobs there as well.

When the Canadian Council on Social Development appeared before the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration a few months ago, they indicated that there are 300,000 jobs with groups associated with their council which could be done but are not filled because they do not have the financing. These are principally jobs in the area of personal services.

There is a lot to be done in the country and a lot of unemployed people not doing those jobs. There is a mismatch. There are things to be done but unemployed people are doing nothing. How do we change that situation? First of all we make our economy as efficient and competitive as possible. We encourage the rapid introduction of new technology. By doing that it is true that we might lose some jobs in manufacturing. That new technology may replace workers who are doing things with older types of technology. However, by doing that we are keeping those industries in Canada rather than losing them in the long run. If we prop up inefficient industries, sooner or later we will not have those industries at all. Therefore we make them as efficient as possible, keeping the wealth producer in Canada and taxing that wealth producer.

We will have very profitable industries that may not be able to employ as many people as they did in the past, but will produce wealth and profits for the Government to fund the personal services which are in great demand in the health field, the educational field, the correctional field, the crime prevention field and in recreation and labour. I could continue naming areas where things have to be done.

At the OECD conference the representative of the Ontario Federation of Labour referred to the Luddites who destroyed the machines because they felt the machines were taking their jobs. Jobs that are oppressive and boring will be replaced by more interesting jobs with the proper retraining and upgrading.

That brings me to the question of retraining. If we are going to encourage and bring about the introduction of technology to make our industries as efficient and competitive as possible, we need the proper adjustment and retraining policies. This requires a very strong commitment to retraining, upgrading, life-long education, paid educational leave policies, broader and more flexible apprenticeship programs and movement at a much faster pace to the co-operative education model which we see at the University of Waterloo and the University of Sherbrooke and which is becoming more widespread in