

*Government Orders*

normally worked and supported the businesses in my riding across the border. They refused to pay the GST whenever they could. I believe the underground economy has been much developed. As a result our business community is suffering added burdens, not only the loss of revenues that have accompanied bad government policies but the more difficult situation it is in now with no help in sight.

As I walk down the streets people in my riding are asking: "When is there going to be an election? We need to get rid of the policies that have been put in place". Certainly cynicism toward government is very much felt by the people in my riding.

When I stop to think about the move the Minister of Finance and the minister of immigration made to put an immigration centre in the riding of the Minister of Finance to shelter those people from the economic impacts in this country and leave other people like the ones I represent out in the cold, it is a real shame. Certainly there is no logical reason for that centre to be located in the riding of the Minister of Finance, outside the fact that he may need some extra support when the election finally comes along.

I also found a tremendous problem yesterday when the new economic plan was introduced. I found a problem with the arrogant way it was put forward: here is a plan that is moving toward prosperity. I do not believe there is any movement toward prosperity when the suggestion in this plan was that \$8 billion would be cut. Those cuts are not this year; they are next year, the year after and the year after that. They are several years in the future.

If the government were serious about cuts and getting cuts done, it would have made them under this year's budget and not looked to future governments to make those cuts. However, the \$8 billion is there as cuts for future governments, not for today. I think the Canadian public should be aware of that.

Another point is very clear and I have a real problem dealing with it. Here we are with a \$34 billion deficit for the Canadian public this year. It is an increase of \$7 billion from nine months ago. The problem is that the government is suggesting it is holding things down, being tight-fisted with the budget and controlling expenditures. In fact that is not true at all. It is overspending by

an additional \$7 billion to what was projected just nine months ago. Next year's budget follows the same line. It will be spending \$10 billion more next year than proposed just nine months ago.

When I stop to look at it, in the history of Canada it is probably the worst financial manager of a budget that any government has been. It prided itself on being a good fiscal manager. That is untrue. I see program after program altered, changed and cut. At the same time I see taxes increased, increased, increased. Yesterday was not a good example. There have been increases of \$55 billion annually in revenue since this government came into office, but it is going further into debt by \$35 billion this year.

The government is not only putting expenses on Canadian people and raising tax levels to the ultimate. It has also mismanaged the economy and has given us a tremendous deficit annually and a huge debt of \$420 billion. I am appalled at anyone who can think this government has been financially responsible, has done a favour to Canadians. It has put us behind the eight ball for the next 20 years.

• (1610)

Only a change of government can resolve that problem. Get rid of those terrible, boring, difficult policies for Canadians. Those policies hack down the little guy, put people out of work and destroy our nation. We need a change. We need progressive, liberal policies.

**Madam Deputy Speaker:** It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 38, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Prince George—Bulkley Valley, Kemano Project; the hon. member for Don Valley East, Small Business; the hon. member for Cape Breton—The Sydneys, Westray Coal Mine; the hon. member for Vancouver East, Employment Equity; the hon. member for Cape Breton—East Richmond, Report of the Auditor General.

**Mr. Ken James (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour):** Madam Speaker, I am pleased to have the opportunity to speak about the initiatives announced by our finance minister yesterday.