

chain principle, some even do piece work. It is a production that is man-ruining. Those industries, Mr. Speaker, are now faced with extraordinary competition from other countries.

These people demonstrated in front of Parliament last week. They are justified to do so and they are more that patient to have suffered for so long a situation as rotten as that in which they live every day.

Mr. Speaker, now and again some of us attack labour leaders. I would say that they often use the situation and their position to take advantage of the worker by forcing him into useless strikes. However, Mr. Speaker, not all the blame should be placed on the same shoulders. There is also the fact that some governments have not taken their responsibilities and have encouraged, for instance, textile imports, since this look good, you export so much and import so much and quote figures from time to time, but finally, Mr. Speaker, what happens? These industries are now in a very serious situation. Let us hope that the textile industry will not have the same fate as the footwear industry in Canada, and especially in Quebec, which was simply allowed to disappear before the flow of imports by a strong majority government.

Mr. Speaker, we live in a working and disturbed world. By introducing Bill C-49 to bring a bit more justice in wealth distribution through taxation, what does the government want to do? According to the minister, the government wants to encourage the worker, and especially the low income earner. This means, Mr. Speaker, that the government recognizes that those are the people who suffer more from inflation or recession. This depends on how you look at it.

● (1640)

Second this means the government recognizes there is inadequate purchasing power in lower income group to buy the products they sweated on.

This reminds me of one thing. When I first spoke of Social Credit and began to understand it, people answered, probably joking but maybe seriously, that Social Credit was dangerous in the first place and utopic in the second place. They said Social Credit would generate inflation, reduce the value of money.

Well, Mr. Speaker, we now live in 1975, at a time when money has lost its value: the dollar is worth approximately 50 cents now. We live in a situation where unemployment is still on the upswing. Just at noon today the Federal Bureau of Statistics released figures far from encouraging. This may show the government erred in its strategy, in its approach, in its evaluation, although the Social Credit is not in government and neither is the country run by a minority government to manage the country.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the time has come for members to stop rejecting solutions. If someone told me the Liberals on the other side of the House are wisdom itself, I would require they prove it. Liberal members are applauding, but I suggest they err just as everyone else. They are not the perfect managers they believe they are. I am not saying they are bad managers either. I am taking a positive attitude. I am looking for solutions, and I do not believe the sum total of absurdity is on my side because I am Social Creditor. I do not believe because I am a Social

### *Income Tax*

Credit member I err every time I deal with economics. I believe, Mr. Speaker, there are good elements in our requests and our position.

For years, the Leader of the Social Credit repeated at length that products have no value unless they reach their destination, which is the consumer. People thought that was funny. But today, everyone realizes that the problem lies there. The problem lies with consumption. The problem is no longer one of production; we have automation, we have machines, we have a perfect production system. The problem is not there; it lies with the distribution of the wealth, with the purchasing power.

Mr. Speaker, in the same constructive spirit with which I should like to participate in the debate this afternoon, I would ask the Minister of Finance to be equally receptive to our suggestions, and to agree to consider seriously what we are suggesting to him.

Mr. Speaker, I would like the Minister of Finance to study the compensated discount. I quite agreed with the Liberals during the last election, when the Progressive Conservatives recommended freezing wages and prices. We saw what the Canadian people did with their suggestion: they rejected it. What would a wage and price freeze have accomplished? It would have frozen a rotten situation, nothing else.

Mr. Speaker, it is not by freezing something that is spoiled that we are going to improve it. The Canadian people have rejected that proposed solution. On the other hand, the Liberals do not have a better one. They merely created a Food Prices Review Board, which can only note that prices are rising. The chairman of that board receives \$40,000 a year just to note that prices are going up. The Social Credit Party does have a solution. It is not perfect, but our party has a solution, Mr. Speaker. It is nothing fantastic, and it is not a panacea.

Instead of shouting "the Bank of Canada" as members opposite are doing, just listen to what I have to say. What does compensated discount mean? It does not mean a price freeze. It means encouraging consumers, by encouraging the vendor not to raise his price without reason, and it means above all giving a compensation to our producers, who are the vendors, so that they do not raise their prices and so that the consumer can buy the product he needs without suffering from an exaggerated, unwarranted or unacceptable rise.

We have often suggested this global solution. Some find it funny. Mr. Speaker, there are people who are finding it increasingly less funny when they go shopping and suddenly realize that prices are still higher than the previous week. The government is saying: We are not responsible for that. Food liners like Steinberg's Limited and Dominion Stores Limited are saying: Neither are we. Finally, it is the small wage earner, the labourer who must foot the bill for these increases. I feel it is the duty of the House to examine all proposals, wherever they may come from, and I say this is indeed a good one.

Moreover, we have a negative approach in this country. We hope we can build a country with ineffective social legislations. Our unemployment rate has reached an all time high. We are paying over \$1.5 billion a year in unemployment benefits. We are about to give \$100 a week to