

has ever seen, carried out by one man after his sojourn on the beaches of Morocco. He returned to Canada and announced on national television that there would be a cut of \$2 billion. From what we hear the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) did not even know that CanFarm was to be cut until after he returned to Ottawa.

This government should be locked up. The Senate is not even good enough for them. It is high time that we recognized the country has been run by people of crass determination to stay in power rather than to govern, whose mentality it is to treat the people of the nation as subjects and not as citizens, a government that assumes that once it is in power it has total authority. Programs have been cut intentionally to make people angry. Programs have been cut without feeling and without feedback regardless of the need for some of those research programs which have been taken away.

This government claims to be cutting some \$500 million from this year's budget. However, the fact of the matter is that the federal government has increased its spending by some \$4 billion over last year. That is no cut at all, Mr. Speaker. That is growth like the growth of mushrooms in the dark fed by the kind of fodder this government gives. We all know what this is. That is the largest dollar increase since the restraint program was implemented in 1975. On the one hand we have a situation where the government is claiming to make cuts, while on the other hand it has the largest dollar increase and that in its restraint period.

The government is projecting another spending increase of \$4.3 billion between now and 1980. I cannot think of anything more hypocritical than to suggest to the Canadian people that the government is holding back while it is in fact galloping forward with glee. The government and its members ought to be ashamed and embarrassed to sit on that side of the House. If they had any courage or integrity at all they would rise, leave their seats and sit as independents. Surely this nation deserves the right to have its citizens heard without the crass disregard we are exposed to from day to day here.

An increase spending rate of 8.7 per cent was promised for 1979. In the first three months of this year the spending rate was more than double that, at 17.3 per cent. Yet the government somehow leads people to believe that it will be in the ballpark of 6 per cent to 8 per cent by the end of the year. The government dishes out one set of facts knowing full well that it is simply not the case. It makes one wonder if there is an ounce of integrity left when one piece of information is given and they know that they have no hope of ever reaching the objectives set forward.

The government claims \$71 million in savings and cuts in the CBC budget. It should be noted, however, that during the past three years the budget of the CBC has increased 48 per cent. By cutting \$71 million the government is simply holding the CBC to the same level of spending as last year. Over the last three years the budget of the CBC has increased 48 per cent to something in excess of \$500 million. Here again the government is trying to pull the wool over people's eyes in order to create some sort of an illusion that it is cutting back.

Borrowing Authority Act

That is what this government is, government by illusion, by disguise, men and women of many masks, people who simply do not have the courage to speak with straightforward honesty to the Canadian public. It is high time that the frustrations the Canadian electorate took out on this government on October 16 are allowed to express themselves nationally.

For the past two decades federal government spending has increased from \$6.2 billion to \$47 billion. Then there is a whimper on the other side that we are now going to cut back when we know that the rate will increase again by more than 8 per cent. That is government by disguise. As I mentioned earlier, the Trudeau years have been a period of increases in spending of some 230 per cent. Yet they choose to shroud their information, place themselves in darkness and fail to be open.

● (1722)

This government believes in secret courts. It will not be open to its commissioners and hides information from members of parliament and the House of Commons. In every way they have lost the right to govern. In every way that message will be told when the time comes and they dare call the next election.

Ten years ago the Post Office deficit was \$67 million. Through the mismanagement of this government it has increased to \$567 million. In ten years the Post Office deficit has increased \$500 million.

Somehow this government still believes that because you can buy a five cent stamp for a nickel, inflation has not taken place. As we all know, the 14-cent stamp is no different than what it was in the Diefenbaker years. You can still mail a letter for five cents. The other nine cents is for storage.

The government is at fault. It has labour, business and the citizens of this country against them. Everyone is against this government except itself and its will to hang on. It is high time for that will to be tested.

In ten years the number of postal employees has increased from 26,000 to 72,000, an increase of 172 per cent. Even those with the dutiful job of analysing this government have made crass statements about it. The former Auditor General, Maxwell Henderson, when he addressed the Palliser Wheat Growers Association in Saskatoon on January 4, 1978, gave a litany of examples of gross government mismanagement. Maxwell Henderson spoke very plainly about the extreme dangers facing this country. In a fairly lengthy speech, he documented how this government is out of control. While I have that speech before me, I will not quote it at length. The bottom line states that this is a government which has lost control over spending in Canada.

If this were to happen in the United States, the government would be impeached. Because it has happened in Canada, they are afraid to call an election. The least we can say about this group of people is that silence may not be golden, just plain yellow. If they had any courage, they would ask their Prime Minister to test himself with a vote of confidence from the people of this country.