

*Government Organization Act, 1970*

to solve this problem which is essentially a matter of economy rather than of pollution.

Everybody knows that the engineers, the materials and the technical facilities of all sorts needed to fight pollution are available; but it is also a fact that it is impossible to find the money needed for that purpose.

This is the aspect of the problem that has to be dealt with in order to be in a position to set things right and get rid of all these obnoxious problems.

In fact, the problems are nothing new; they have existed for a long time. Pollution has been a subject of discussion in this House for years but very seldom have we taken effective control measures.

This government should provide the required credits at reasonable interest rates and finance these projects while entrusting their implementation to the provinces and the municipalities which would readily assume their responsibilities.

• (9:00 p.m.)

That, Mr. Speaker, is where we should turn for a solution to the economic problem we have long been studying. We never solved it, we always went on polluting. As time passes, there is more and more stench, more and more pollution, the debts and the taxes of citizens increase: one tax after another, one levy after another, to pay administration expenses of departments which have never solved anything. There are enough people idle in the Department of Finance. If they are capable of doing something, they are unable to do so because the Minister of Finance (Mr. Benson) does not meet the wishes and requests of other departments.

If we want to give the matter serious consideration, as men who know what they have to do and where they are going, we will find the solution.

Mr. Speaker, once more it is the financial system which is old-fashioned, which is extremely polluted and more and more governments are granting powers to financiers who further pollute our economy.

Our present system is good for a small group of people who get rich at the expense of the rest. When one considers capitalization one sees that the big institutions are building up reserve funds, all kinds of reserve funds, secret and semisecret. They try to disguise their manoeuvres. Indeed they have put in billions and do not want to let one cent out because their investments yield interests of 10, 12, 15 or 20 per cent. This is exploitation of the people and administration is so carried out as to keep that pollution, that exploitation which kills all citizens and makes all people equal, except the small number who benefit from this. This is where the problem lies and as long as it remains unsolved, it is useless to create new departments.

Mr. Speaker, everyone is complaining about pollution, air pollution, water pollution, food and soil pollution, intellectual and sexual pollution, educational pollution and finally, spiritual pollution. Everything is polluted.

Let us say that there is a little truth in all that, but also a lot of fake. The only pollution that ought to be feared, Mr. Speaker, is that of the mind, of the intelli-

[Mr. Latulippe.]

gence, and particularly, the pollution of ministers' intelligence, they who control the Canadian economy, who have control over persons, families, corporations, in short over all components of our country.

I say once again that the greatest pollution, the one which creates the greatest unrest in this country, is the pollution of minds, which is the source of all pollution to be seen in nature. Let us look at it more closely.

In January 1971, an article published in Montreal's *La Presse* dealt with pollution. The Chairman of the Bank of Montreal, one of the most influential figures in the Canadian economy for years, the one who perhaps knows it best, the director of several large Canadian companies, cautioned the public against hasty adoption of our ill-advised legislation. In fact, this is what he said, and I quote:

Canadians will have to give up affluence to pay the cost of fighting pollution.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, we shall have to tighten our belts a little more in front of this enormous affluence, this tremendous technical progress while refraining from touching this affluence in order to solve the problem of pollution.

If we are able today to get to the moon to find out if grass grows on it, we are surely able to solve the pollution problem which is far from being comparable to a trip to the moon.

Big words are always needed to focus public attention on imaginary problems and prevent the people from enjoying the benefits of their production.

In Canada, there is talk about inflation, about unemployment, and about poverty. There is also talk about pollution, to bore the people with imaginary problems, with the bogey-men who scare children, while millionaires, multimillionaires, presidents, directors and shareholders of large banks and corporations gorge themselves and grow fatter every year reaping 40 per cent of what is left of the production of all Canadian citizens.

Mr. Speaker, the main government departments here in Ottawa are docile puppets putting on a show for a Parliament which is dumbfounded by pollution. Their ignorance, pretended or real, is reported in all the papers the next day and the public is kept uninformed on possible administrative reforms. Yet it would suffice to reinstate a favourable national economic balance for the benefit of all Canadian citizens without exception.

This is where we must intervene, Mr. Speaker. It is in the human and economic field that we must labour with the human being as the foundation of our endeavours so that all Canadians may benefit by this immense progress.

I feel that if Canadians have been capable of polluting themselves, they are indeed capable of depolluting themselves.

The President of the Bank of Montreal, Mr. Arnold Hart, director of several of the most important companies in Canada, recommended, in an article which was published in *La Presse* of January 26, 1971, that we forgo affluence to pay the cost of pollution, and cautioned us against passing ill-advised legislation. And all members