

**Mr. Martin:** In real figures.

**Mr. Clark:** I shall talk about the cost in real figures too. I am sure the parliamentary secretary is aware, and I know he is doing his job as a parliamentary secretary and as a partisan, that the two industries which would be most dramatically affected by my policy would be the house building industry, which is almost 100 per cent Canadian-owned. We would not only be helping young, older and middle aged Canadians who want to build homes, we would also be stimulating a highly productive part of the Canadian economy. We would be creating jobs for Canadians and growth for Canada, which in turn would provide revenue for the Government of Canada and the governments of the provinces. It would provide the kind of stimulus which is singularly absent in the budget brought down by this government.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Clark:** All members are proud of the constituencies they come from and I am sure they think they cannot be matched by any other constituency in the country. I had the opportunity to be home in my riding on the weekend, to meet some of the people who work and live in the constituency of Rocky Mountain which stretches along the western mountains and foothills of Alberta. These are people who work harder than we do in this House of Commons, people who go down in coal mines every day, who work outside in winter, and who run farm operations which require them to keep the schedule that calves keep when they are being born, a schedule much less predictable than you, sir, can enforce in this House of Commons. They are hard working Canadians who have their counterparts in every constituency in this country.

One of my privileges as national leader is to have the opportunity to travel this country, to go to Newfoundland and visit the little community of Trepassey and see people who go out every day in violent seas to fish for food, and to travel across this country and see people who want to build.

Many of these people came to this country because they knew that there was opportunity to build, and that is the nature of this country. What we need is a national policy, including an economic policy, that is in keeping with the building nature of this country, rather than in conflict. For a decade we have had a government which has not trusted the people of Canada, and it is evident again in the budget. Instead of allowing private entrepreneurs to acquire businesses which could be best operated in the private sector, the government moves in and buys. Instead of helping young Canadians and other Canadians who want to go out and build their homes, the government says no. Instead, this government goes out to younger Canadians and Canadians on low incomes and says: "You are too rich. How do we, those of us sitting in Outremont, know you are too rich? Because you want to own a home." That is what the Prime Minister said, and that is why he opposed our policy.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

*The Budget—Mr. D. J. Johnston*

**Mr. Clark:** I will not get into that matter, Mr. Speaker, because it is a subject for another debate, but it certainly indicates an attitude toward Canadians. There is here, in this party, a determination to establish a government which will introduce policies which will encourage the building instinct of ordinary Canadians. It will be a refreshing change and we look forward to introducing such policies as soon as we can after the next election.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Donald J. Johnston (Westmount):** These are my first remarks in this House, Mr. Speaker. Indeed, it is a great honour and privilege for a number of reasons. First of all, simply being an elected representative of the Canadian people is a great honour, as is representing the riding of Westmount, which, as hon. members know, will soon be redesignated as Saint Henri-Westmount. It is an unexpected pleasure to have the opportunity to listen to and follow the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Clark), and accordingly I would like to depart from some of the general comments which I intended to make at the outset about my riding—which I understand are traditional and to which I will come back in due course—to comment briefly upon some of the statements made by the Leader of the Opposition with regard to the budget.

I have sometimes been a critic of budgets in the past, but I must say that I am proud, as a humble backbencher, to be associated, however indirectly, with the budget handed down last week.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Johnston (Westmount):** I have to assume that the Leader of the Opposition, because he really did not address himself to any of the substantive issues contained in the budget, must be in agreement, by and large, with the proposals contained in it.

I learned some things in the course of my campaign. I am a neophyte and a debutante with no political experience, and, in the course of my campaign, my Conservative adversary, who was a very able adversary, let it be known to me that he had been at a candidate's school. This was my first criticism of my own party, because I did not have the benefit of candidate school. It appeared to me during the course of the campaign and after listening to a number of members of the opposition, including its leader, that candidate school specializes in a particular form of humour, a good deal of gloom and doom, and the preaching of a lot of platitudes.

The comments which I intend to make to this House today will be less humorous, with less doom and gloom, and I hope that there will not be too many platitudes. However, I would like to point out that the Leader of the Opposition did make one statement which I share wholeheartedly with him, and that is, that this is not a country beset by problems, but a country of unlimited opportunity. I was delighted to hear the Leader of the Opposition make that statement, because it has long been my impression during the course of the last several years and, in my election campaign that too much gloom and