

Now, Mr. Speaker, this seems exaggerated, but it is true.

These facts are alarming for our society and I think that the government should have taken special notice of it and put an end to the harm caused at present by that drug. As one knows, it is very easy nowadays for anybody who wants to use drugs to get them from recognized agencies, and especially from physicians.

Mr. Speaker, I shall conclude my remarks by commenting on the amendment to the amendment moved by the hon. member for Portneuf (Mr. Godin) and seconded by the hon. member for Compton (Mr. Latulippe) and dealing with a guaranteed minimum income for each Canadian.

For several days, this house has been discussing the fight against inflation. I wonder where the Minister of Finance (Mr. Benson) and the government experts found their definition of the word inflation, in their efforts to fight it. Surely, we should know what it is before we fight it. The best way to find the right definition is to look in the Larousse or Quillet dictionaries, both give exactly the same definition.

At page 543 of the Larousse dictionary, the word inflation is defined as follows:

Economic imbalance characterized by a general increase in prices—

Up to this point, I think that we all agree, but the definition indicates also the cause of this evil and I continue:

—and which stems from the excessive purchasing power of the body of the consumers (individuals, corporations and governments) in relation to the quantity of goods and services available to them.

This means that inflation implies that there is too much money in circulation. Is it that the minister now intends to fight inflation on the basis of this definition and that we all agree with the Larousse definition? Of course not, the minister does not care about the definition. On the contrary, I think that in Canada, at the present time, there is not much money in circulation.

One look at the statistics of the federal, provincial and municipal governments and the school boards, at the needs of the Canadian people, at our production and at the unemployed, the families who need that production, to conclude that the problem in Canada is not one of production, because the Minister

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of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Pepin) and the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Marchand) tell us that the production should be increased. The Minister of Finance, on the other hand, tells us that we should produce less.

Thus, restraint on one hand and increase of the productivity on the other. We, the members of the Ralliement créditiste, say that our problem is one of distribution and all the newspaper articles which tell us of the problems of our municipalities are capable of giving quite another definition which leads us to believe that we do not live in a period of inflation.

On September 17, 1969, the newspaper *L'Action* said about the city of Montreal, and I quote:

The population of Montreal has only tripled since 1900, but the city's budget has increased a hundredfold.

In the meantime, interest charges on the debt have increased sixfold, from \$13,400,000 to 1948-49 to \$77,100,000 in 1968-69.

The city of Montreal pays at the present time more than \$85 million per year, in interest charges only, and the largest city in my constituency, that of Granby, showed in 1957 a debt of \$2,750,000—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[*English*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Order, please. It being 5.30 o'clock p.m. it is my duty, pursuant to section 4 of Standing Order 38, to interrupt these proceedings and forthwith put the question necessary to dispose of the amendment to the amendment now before the house. The question is on the amendment to the amendment. All those in favour will please say yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): All those opposed will please say nay.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): In my opinion the nays have it.

And more than five members having risen:

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Call in the members.