

After the Liberal Government introduced the capital gains tax their Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture promised to change the date of evaluation. They then sat in the House for four years and refused to do anything. Every time we asked them about it, they would say "soon". They both recognized that it was killing incentive but would not do anything about it. They killed the incentive of hundreds of people across the country. The exemption from the capital gains tax will create jobs.

Capital gains tax has ruined the lives of many Canadians who wanted to retire but could not do so because the Government would take a chunk out of their nest-egg, the only pension they had. That caused lost jobs as well because if they had been able to sell their land to their hired man he would have been able to hire other people. That would create many jobs across the country.

The Liberals say that this Government was elected because there was a need for change. The Government was elected because the people were sick and tired of the do-nothing policies and the killing-of-incentive policies of the Liberals. That is why we were elected. Our Budget is creating jobs and reducing the deficit. Maybe that is what makes the Liberals and the NDP so angry.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Lapierre: Thank Heavens I am not a Conservative, Mr. Speaker! My hon. friend has just said that if farmers can sell their lands, they will create jobs. All farmers who intend to continue working their lands and creating jobs have denounced the fact that this decision will not help farmers generally, but only retired farmers, and will not ease the burden of those to whom the Minister of Public Works (Mr. La Salle) had promised a subsidy, like Quebec hog producers! This decision is not likely to help them because their lands having lost so much of their worth, there is no capital gain to speak of.

When he says that this decision will create jobs, Mr. Speaker, does he feel that the purchase of a condominium in Florida is likely to create jobs in Canada? The answer is an unequivocal no. There is no condition attached to the generous gift the Minister of Finance is making to the rich, as far as creating jobs in Canada for Canadians is concerned. That is the fraud of their budget. They will create a great many jobs by purchasing works of art in Europe or by purchasing condominiums in Florida or villas in Portugal. All this will be accepted by this generous Minister of Finance who was far more eager to please the big shots than ordinary Canadians. But who is going to pay for this, Mr. Speaker? I suggest that if my hon. colleague knew the people at the lower end of the economic scale and those who are faced with enormous financial difficulties . . . like our senior citizens. He should be ashamed to stand in the House and brag about defending senior citizens when his own Minister of Finance is reducing the purchasing power of their Old Age Pension cheques, which is totally unacceptable. When he uses the expression "senior citizens", he means those who have lots of money, but what about the millions of

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old folks whose sole source of income is their pension cheque, the purchasing power of which will be cut by as much as 30 per cent over the next five years, because of the action taken by the Minister of Finance? And he has the gall to support that. That is altogether unacceptable, Mr. Speaker.

• (1630)

[*English*]

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Speaker, all I can say is that the last remarks of the Hon. Member are complete baloney. He does not understand the system. The only thing that Liberals understand is borrowing money, nationalizing, spending government money and putting the people further into debt. That is what they have been doing for 16 years. The Hon. Member is in a rut.

He cannot tell me that capital gains do not create jobs. I told the House yesterday about a man who said he wanted to expand his business and create jobs for seven people but would never do so while capital gains tax was in existence.

The Hon. Member does not even understand farming. The Liberals say that we want the farmers to sell their land. People who have spent 40 or 50 years on the land are entitled to retire in dignity. That is what the Liberals refuse to let them do. The MacEachen Budget would not even let them put their money into an RRSP. I do not know how a Liberal can stand up without having his face turn as red as blazes. They have hurt the little people of this country and have killed incentive.

We have a new Government starting a new era in which we will give people a chance to live and a chance to have a job. That is what irks the Hon. Member so much. We are doing what his Government refused to do.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Lapierre: Mr. Speaker, I have much respect for the hon. member because of his age and not because of his judgment. His social awareness should make him realize that the cuts his Minister of Finance is about to make in the case of senior citizens will affect the poor people without a piece of land or \$500,000 in capital gains. When he referred to farmers who could not retire, I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, but . . . Marc Lalonde, the former Minister of Finance, had allowed a \$300,000 exemption which covered the reasonable value of the land. The farmers I know were satisfied with that because capital gains in excess of \$300,000 . . . Perhaps those people should be asked to make some contribution to the nation, Mr. Speaker, and pay taxes. I understand that the Hon. Member would want to give every opportunity to the rich. When he refers to fairness, the Hon. Member means to give more to the well-to-do. This is the difference between a Progressive Conservative and a Liberal. We have a social awareness. Our conduct is not merely dictated by the lure of power and money. The Hon. Member has two obsessions: profit-making and the fear of losses. I think that in politics our reasoning should not be strictly based on financial factors, but also on humanitarian and social considerations. And that is why your victimization