

when parliamentarians owe it to Canadians to say that year after year, decade after decade, a lot of good programs have been put together, each one of which on its own made some sense and seemed to be fulfilling a certain important role—and we have reached that point because we were sent here by the Canadian people to come here and fix it up. The Government must stand back and look at all the individual programs, as a package and say: “This represents the Government of Canada today; it is off track, it is out of phase”. Of course, there will be difficulty when individual programs are cut or eliminated and the interest of some to protest is understandable.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, the Standing Orders provide for a ten-minute period for questions and comments. It has now been 13 minutes, and I would therefore ask the Chair to apply the Standing Order as written.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member is correct. The Chair tries to get as many questions as possible into this ten-minute period, and we had a question at the ninth minute, but in any event, the Hon. Member's remarks are well taken.

We shall now proceed with—

[*English*]

We will now resume debate.

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex-Windsor): Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to enter this debate. It is particularly interesting to follow the Member who has just spoken. He is an old friend from years past. His political philosophy has clearly somehow been misled somewhere along the road.

I want to begin, as any new Member should, by expressing a sense of gratitude to the people of Essex-Windsor for giving me the chance to serve as their spokesperson in this House of Commons and to bring before it some of the issues of concern and importance to them. I do so with a sense of considerable excitement about being part of the new era which this Parliament represents.

● (1140)

I should say, Mr. Speaker, that all of us new Members of Parliament are a bit like people tossed into the middle of the lake and told to start to swim. We are not quite sure yet which shore to swim toward. However, give us a few months and, along with the Hon. member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans), we will be raising difficult points of order and giving the Speaker a difficult time.

Today I would like to talk about the realities that we face in the economy of 1984. I would like to talk about the industrial policy challenges which I believe the Throne Speech has ignored. I want to talk about some of the wrong directions in industrial policy which I see being taken by the early initiatives of this Government.

When we speak of the realities of 1984 in Essex-Windsor and elsewhere in Canada, we must first speak about what we all went through in the last election campaign. I believe that I

and my colleagues are here because the ordinary people of Essex-Windsor and of other parts of Canada wanted to make a strong statement of concern about what has been happening in this country as well as make a statement of hope for the future.

I would like to describe to the House some of the people for whom I feel I particularly speak. I would like to describe the young man who lives in Essex, one of the small towns in my constituency. He is a graduate of university and had worked hard to put himself through school. He had looked for work for over nine months and met me at the door of his house with a profound sense of discouragement and demoralization.

I would like to describe the young woman who lives in the Forest Glade suburb of Windsor. She met me on the street as she set out in her sixth month of looking for work in that city. She was still going out with a sense of determination to try to find a job but also with an increasing sense of desperation.

I would like to describe to the House the small businessman who lives in Amherstburg. He is someone who had made a living selling Canadian crafts and had employed five people. He found that the interest rates of the previous government had killed his business and at the same time killed his dreams.

Finally, I would like to tell you, Mr. Speaker, that I speak for pensioners who live in places like the Remington Park section of Windsor. I spoke to some pensioners in their back yard about the way that price increases and real decreases in pension levels had led to their facing a situation in which they did not even have the money to be able to afford trips to Toronto to see their grandson. These ordinary, hardworking Canadians are the people for whom this country should be working. They are the people who built this country and they are the people who, in 1984, are being victimized by the way in which this country's economic directions are being set.

At the moment, Mr. Speaker, unemployment statistics for Windsor show us that there are 14,000 people officially out of work. That is up from the 13,000 who were officially out of work a year ago. There are over 21,000 people on the rolls of the Canadian Employment and Immigration Commission. The challenge for all of them and for all of us is to make our economy work again, to set right the economic mistakes of the past régime but also to respond to the emerging problems and challenges of the 21st century.

There are many aspects to the meeting of this task. As chairperson of the economic policy committee of the New Democratic Party caucus, I can say that we as a Party will be addressing a great many of those different aspects in the months ahead.

Today I wish to focus particularly on industrial policy and on the desperate need that we in Canada have today to build a solid industrial base—to provide jobs for the young, to give prosperity to small business and to give security to the old. Industrial policy does not mean government control or central planning or prejudice against the private sector. It means all of us working together in this small, open economy in a very difficult world environment, aiming to focus our scarce money