

in this country, they are obviously Canadians and believe in our motto "from sea to sea"—would sit in such a sheep-like fashion and accept the drivel which comes forward under the guise of truth, and not question it one bit. For the sake of this country I beg of you, every one of you who is twinned with a western riding, to spend this weekend on the telephone and talk to the defeated Liberal candidate out there, talk to an NDP member out there, talk to anybody you can get on the telephone and try to understand what you are doing to Canada. I beg of you to learn a little bit. Go to your next caucus and when the government House leader says, "Here is our strategy for closure", or when the Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen) says, "Here is how we are going to sock it to the west," or when the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) says, "We are going to get those multinationals," understand a little about what they are really saying in terms of this country.

I was one of these who was cut off in the constitutional debate and I do not intend to bootleg a constitutional speech into this budget debate, but I wonder how the NDP feels. Their ranks in the House are empty tonight.

An hon. Member: Not quite.

Mr. Andre: I wonder how the Leader of the NDP feels tonight.

An hon. Member: We have a higher percentage of members in the House than do the Conservatives.

Mr. Andre: I wonder how they feel after that press conference where their leader said, "I have negotiated with the Prime Minister and I have secured resources for the west. I have secured a guarantee under this constitution." How do they feel now after seeing this budget and seeing what it does to Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia? I wonder when the NDP will seize control from that Ontario troika, Eddie, Bobbie and Ian, and represent the constituents who elected them here.

It is really sad to see that party deteriorate in such a way. It was a party which stood for its principles, a party with a conscience. They had a philosophy which I could not accept, but when they articulated their views, one could believe that they were set on the basis of principles and of their fundamental beliefs. It was a party which felt for the common man. That mantle does not fit them any longer. Bobbie and Eddie have taken over, they are playing these games. I suggest that members of the NDP who would like to see the party return to the days when it had principles should seize control or else have the decency to merge formally with the Liberal party instead of being the "little red rump", as the hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie), described them last night.

The NDP, through their chicanery and political opportunism, have not only damaged themselves but have damaged the country severely. The budget they defeated last year would have provided for Canada lower energy costs than the budget we are seeing now. It was based on an agreement with the provinces—there was no constitutional conflict—which con-

tained the same crude oil increases as in the budget last night. There was no conflict. It was a tough agreement which took a lot of commitment and energy. There were meetings between prime minister Clark and Premier Lougheed in Ottawa, Edmonton, Saskatoon and Montreal, but we were determined to show that confederation can work. They reached an oil agreement which was the same, in terms of the impact to the consumer, as the one reached by this government, but better when combined with the budget and its tax credits in terms of lower income families. That budget provided a lower deficit than the current budget. It would have resulted in lower unemployment and lower inflation than the current budget. It was described in the Canadian tax journal as the most progressive budget in the last ten years. The NDP have helped to bring about the defeat of that budget, and now they have this budget. I hope the three stooges, Eddie, Bobbie and Ian, are happy because they sure are not funny.

It is pathetic to see what happens to people of integrity when they are associated more and more with the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). I remember the hon. member for Windsor West (Mr. Gray) when he was a man of integrity. I remember, when I was first elected, Herb Gray was dull, bland and grey, but he was honest—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order, please. Members should refer to other members by their constituency, not by name.

Mr. Andre: Certainly, Mr. Speaker. What happened was that the hon. member for Windsor West was booted out of the cabinet for being honest, principled and hard working because those are not qualities which are much admired by the Prime Minister. He sat in purgatory for a few years, saw who was occupying the front benches of his party, and learned from it. Instead of a man whom the country respected—previously he held respect—he is now sneered at. He said he would quit if the interest rates went up higher than they were under the Conservatives. They are higher now, so why does he not quit? He said he had an industrial development policy. Has he? He has no such thing.

An even more pathetic figure than the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce is the minister from Alberta, the senator who is here to represent Liberal interests in Alberta in the federal cabinet. He is part of the "Bobbsey Twins" responsible for economic development, the economic minister, this great representative of the west. His twin is the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Where was the minister from Alberta when the constitution was being discussed? He was at the Liberal club at the university of Alberta saying he did not think section 42 in the proposed Canadian constitution was appropriate. One wonders where he was when the matter was discussed in cabinet, or whether he is allowed to attend cabinet meetings where important matters such as the constitution are discussed. We wonder where he was when the energy policy was discussed which will bring devastation to the area of the country which he purports to represent in cabinet. Where was he in terms of his responsibility as economic development