

[Translation]

If we talk about this with Francophones in the Province of Quebec or with people in British Columbia, they will all agree with the Canadian Government's objectives.

[English]

However, if one wants to look beyond general phrases which men and women of good will in all Parties can accept, one must look at the substance of the detail which is intended to flesh out such laudable goals. If one looks at the Throne Speech for the substance of details which concerns the ordinary person in the land, one finds things lacking.

I will come back to some favourable things I want to say about the Government in terms of foreign affairs, reconciliation, and its attitude in discussions with the provinces. Indeed I say to the Prime Minister in this context that I am on record as admitting that I was wrong in the past in my forecast about job creation. I say right now that the Government has not been all bad. However, if one looks at what most concerns the average person in the land, man or woman, senior citizen or young person, if one looks at the details intended to flesh out those general goals in the Throne Speech, one will find them remarkably deficient.

Let us look at the question of jobs. We find no commitment on specific levels of job fulfilment or unemployment reduction. We find no job targets. That is indicative of what the Government is all about. The deficit targets were repeated by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson). We find deficit reduction targets but no targets in terms of reducing unemployment levels.

Let us look at the question of income and taxation. Just a moment ago the Prime Minister boasted that in 1985, for the first time in a number of years, real incomes had actually risen. However, he forgot to mention that net disposable income went down. Why did it go down? It was because the Conservative Government imposed some \$1,300 in taxes on the average Canadian, the worst increase by any Government in modern history. This is why disposable income went down.

Let us look at the issue of women's equality, which is profoundly important to Canadians of our generation. What they are most notably pressing for, apart from affirmative action programs with teeth upon which the Government reneged, is a specific commitment to child care—day care services. We did not get a commitment in the Throne Speech to the kinds of minimum spending for which men and women and groups across the country have called. Once again we got a commitment simply to talk further about the possibility of establishing child care.

I come now to the question of farmers, particularly grain producers. In his speech the Prime Minister said something about the idea of a deficiency payment. I want the farming people of Canada, particularly those of western Canada, to note with care what the Prime Minister said. Grain producers in this land, second to none in the world, are facing intense competition with an American Treasury which is subsidizing

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American farmers and with European Treasuries which have been bailing out European farmers. They wanted a deficiency payment. They wanted a commitment. What did they get from the Prime Minister today? Did they get a commitment of an additional \$1 billion in funding from the federal Government to go into a deficiency payment? Not at all. If we listen to the words with care, we find that we got another commitment to talk about the need to provide financial assistance to grain producers in the neighbourhood of \$1 billion. Again it raises all the questions about the credibility of the Government. Is it new money? Is it to be coming in the form of loans? Is it to be coming in the form of existing programs? Is it to be cost shared with the other prairie Governments? All these questions must be asked. If the Government wanted to deliver, as the Government of Canada ought to want to deliver in terms of the agricultural crisis, the Prime Minister ought to have risen to his feet and said: "Here is the money. It is new federal funds and farmers will get it", not that it will be talked about.

We can now expect—and I will be very blunt in this—all through the coming days in the election which is taking place in the Province of Saskatchewan that the Government of Canada will negotiate. That is what it will do. It will negotiate. It will talk about its package. Maybe we will have some new money; maybe we will not. Maybe it will be loans; maybe it will not. Then, after the election is over, we will find out the truth. The people of Canada found out the truth about the Government and about how many promises it has broken in the past two years, and the people of Saskatchewan will not be taken in by this.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Oh, oh!

Mr. Broadbent: The Minister of Justice (Mr. Hnatyshyn) is doing some heckling. I hope he returns to Saskatchewan on the weekend and explains what the Prime Minister has said. More concretely, I hope he goes back to Saskatchewan and says on behalf of the Government of Canada: "Here is the money, here is the cheque, made out by the federal Government". There should be no negotiations. He should say: "Here is the money"; that is what he should do.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I will be there.

Mr. Broadbent: I will believe it when I see it. At this point I want to say, because I think it is appropriate in the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne, something about what we in our Party understand the people of Canada really want from their Governments. It seems to me that it is not too complex. I think the people of Canada, not unlike democracies elsewhere in the world, want honesty. They do not want miracles. They do not want false expectations provided by Parties of the left, right, or centre. They want some straightforward talk and some straightforward promises. Then they want the Government to live up to them. Also I think the people of Canada want—and they share this aspiration with people of other democratic lands—access on the basis of equality to all the means which a rich land such as ours has at