

the Government and announced, not to Parliament but, in a television broadcast. The Government may have "concealed nothing and shaded nothing," as the Prime Minister said on June 14, but if that is so then the next ten days brought about quite a revelation. It is difficult to believe that the situation could have deteriorated so rapidly.

I do not accuse anyone of saying anything that was not true. Probably the Prime Minister had been misinformed, or had failed to heed the advice of his officials, as he had frequently failed to heed advice on the economic situation of the country given to him in both houses of Parliament, and also by prominent economists throughout the country. A few minutes ago I said that the only person who really had any confidence in the Government was the Prime Minister himself, but the sole interpretation that one can put upon his television announcement six days after the election is that he too had lost confidence in his administration.

Honourable senators, whether or not you agree with me on what I have said with respect to confidence—and I am sure many honourable senators sitting opposite me do not agree entirely with what I have said—I think it must be admitted that there are some grounds for the statements I have made. I think it is possible that my honourable colleagues opposite have at times questioned themselves, and have wondered whether they had lost confidence in their administration.

Some Hon. Senators: Never.

Hon. Mr. Hollett: I would like to ask the honourable leader, would he as an individual lend money to a person in whom he had lost confidence? I refer to the loans made by the International Monetary Fund and by the United States Government, totalling \$1,300 million dollars. Does that show loss of confidence?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald (Brantford): That is a question. I am not at this time saying that I criticize the Canadian Government for having gone to the International Monetary Fund to beg a loan from that fund. That fund was set up to assist nations which were in financial distress, and the very fact that the Government went to this fund is the best proof that Canada was in financial distress.

Hon. Mr. Hollett: What would you say?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald (Brantford): I would say to my friend that I hope she is getting it. I am glad he asked me the question.

Honourable senators, whether or not you agree with me that there was lack of confidence, I think you must agree that very many people still question it and are hoping that

something might be done to restore that confidence. We hoped that we would find something in the Speech from the Throne to that end, but we have looked in vain.

There is one clause in the Speech from the Throne which probably aims at assuring us that confidence will be restored. I will read the clause:

The purposes of the fiscal measures to be placed before you at this session will be the creation of better employment opportunities for the Canadian people . . . the strengthening of Canada's balance of international payments and the maintenance of stability in prices. New budget measures will be introduced to provide further solutions to long-term problems.

Honourable senators, those are fine words—indeed, a worthy endeavour—but what evidence is there of any action on the part of the Government to give effect to those fine words?

We look in vain for any encouragement in the Speech from the Throne. Is the Government at long last recognizing the existence of these vexing problems of unemployment and economic instability? I hope so. I repeat, there is little encouragement one can get from the Speech from the Throne. One exception to that may be found in the reference to a national economic development board. There is some encouragement there. The reference to such a board is very hopeful, and I trust it will be established. If so, I wonder if that board will be under the direction of the honourable minister from this house. The Government could not do better than put the board under his direction. Probably he will tell us something about that when he addresses the house, either on the Throne Speech or at some appropriate time.

Of course, the board should have been set up some time ago. It has been advocated by us for the last three years, but for some reason or another you just have to keep on prodding this Government before you can get any action.

When it is set up the board will have heavy responsibilities. One of its functions will be to create an economic climate and an atmosphere of confidence which will make it possible to continue the jobs of those who are now employed, to create jobs for those who are now unemployed and for those who are yearly coming on the labour market in ever-increasing numbers. I say "in ever-increasing numbers" because within six or seven years there will be twice as many young people coming on the labour market as there are coming on it today.

To bring about such conditions as will make it possible to assist these young Canadians is indeed a very heavy task. I am sure that