

*Excise Tax Act*

Vancouver East, there is lots of evidence of that. He also said: "Don't worry, folks. Don't worry, Canadians. We won't lose control over our resources. Don't worry about the fish processing industry. We are going to save it, just vote for us, and all will be well". In British Columbia we stand to lose close to 6,000 jobs in the fish processing industry, and many of those jobs are in my riding of Vancouver East.

Again and again the Prime Minister assured us that the trade deal would not affect unemployment insurance or regional development. He then had the blatant hide to immediately bring in a Budget, under the sponsorship of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson), which attacked both those programs quite drastically.

Remember how the Tories promised tax reform? They said that their tax reforms would tax the wealthy and help average families. We know now that the reverse is true. More than 60,000 profitable corporations still are tax-free while hidden sales tax will be imposed on unsuspecting consumers. Of course, they are the kind of taxes that are regressive and hit poor people with the same amount of taxation as wealthier people.

These are typical Tory broken promises, and let us not forget that. I hope the voters of Canada and the taxpayers of Canada will not forget it. Those voters believed the Prime Minister and were willing to trust him. They voted for him and they have been betrayed. Every one of those promises has been broken.

The policies that led to the drastic cuts that are evident in the Tory Budget are policies that fit perfectly with the American agenda that was part of the Canada-U.S. trade deal. It is easy to see that now. U.S. businesses stated that we had to establish a level playing field; that we could not have social programs that were far more generous and provided far more security for Canadians than those in the United States. The Americans said that we had to limit unemployment insurance because it was an unfair subsidy, and that we should not protect disadvantaged regions. The business community in the United States has been stating this for years, and the Minister should know only too well that this was the agenda in the trade deal. We should not protect Canadian industries and resources. These are the people who won. The Canadians lost and the Tories' drastic Budget

that we are debating tonight, which includes Bill C-20, is proof of that.

The Conservative Budget includes pretty drastic tax measures. The sales and excise taxes in Bill C-20 are only part of these regressive and punitive measures. The tax measures in the Budget will add another \$710 to the annual tax burden of the average family in my riding of Vancouver East. There will be another \$1,000 added when the goods and services tax is imposed in 1991. That is the hidden sales tax that the Minister states is not hidden.

• (2310)

An average family of four in Vancouver East, an ordinary working family whose parents go out to work, a family struggling with two children, will face the following annual tax increases. At the same time they will be denied affordable child care spaces because the Government has not fulfilled its obligations in that field. They will face a sales tax increase of 1.5 per cent which will add about \$273 per year. They will see unemployment insurance premiums increased by 15 per cent which will add \$130 per year. There will be a gas tax increase which will add \$120 per year. There will be an increase on taxes for cigarettes and alcohol which will result in \$100 per year. The federal surtax increase from 3 per cent to 5 per cent will add \$120 per year. The new goods and services tax will add another \$1,000 per year for a total per year of \$1,710 when all these measures come into effect.

How will the Bill we are debating tonight hit Canadian taxpayers? It increases a number of sales taxes which are the most regressive way of getting money from Canadians. Bill C-20 imposes taxes that will affect every taxpayer in Canada. There will be a tax on long distance calls. The telecommunications service tax will be increased to 11 per cent. The sales tax on construction materials will be increased to 9 per cent. There will be a sales tax increase to 19 per cent on the price of wines. There will be sales tax increases up to 1.5 per cent on gas and diesel fuel. Taxes on tobacco, cigarettes and snuff will be increased again. This is at the same time that the Government refuses to introduce the anti-smoking Bill which the Members of my Party fought so hard for in the last session of Parliament. It was passed by the House of Commons and the Senate. Yet the Government has refused to implement it in the interests of the health of Canadians.