

*The Budget—Mr. Caron*

In an editorial published in the *Journal* of December 21, 1960, Mr. W. E. Currier said:

(Text):

Eric W. Kierans, former economics professor now president of the Montreal stock exchange, said the budget cannot be expected to produce the economic growth Finance Minister Fleming wants.

(Translation):

A little farther on, there is an article by Mr. Rudy Usick—

(Text):

Rudy Usick, president of the Manitoba farmers' union, said, however:

"The government's trend towards higher tariffs is continuing. We cannot expect to increase grain sales to other countries by making it more difficult for them to sell goods to us."

Dr. A. M. McLeod, economist of the Toronto-Dominion bank, described them as relatively mild measures that would have little effect on investment by Canadians. The budget would not likely do much to reduce Canada's balance of payments deficit.

British Columbia finance officials said the increase in the withholding tax on Canadian bonds owned by foreign investors will "effectively raise interest rates"...

Frederick G. Gardiner chairman of the council of metropolitan Toronto, also felt the budget's effect would be to increase interest rates on municipal borrowing...

G. Arthur Lascelles, Toronto metro finance commissioner, said there simply isn't enough money in circulation in Canada to satisfy all borrowers. H. A. McDiarmid of Vancouver, president of B.C. division of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, commented that if the budget tends to slow investment from the United States, business may also be slowed...

Karl E. Scott, president of Ford Motor Company of Canada Limited, said he hopes the government is not passing legislation that will be detrimental to the advancement of Canadian companies controlled in other countries.

(Translation):

**Mr. Egan Chambers (St. Lawrence-St. George):** Mr. Speaker, may I put a question to the hon. member?

**Mr. Caron:** I cannot spare the time; I have only got half an hour.

**Mr. Chambers:** May I—

**Mr. Caron:** I said no.

(Text):

**Mr. Chambers:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, may we know from what the hon. member has quoted?

**Mr. Caron:** I said so when I started and if you will read *Hansard* tomorrow you will know what it is.

**Mr. Chambers:** What document?

**Mr. Caron:** It is from an *Ottawa Journal* survey of those who were interested in the budget.

**Mr. Martineau:** What date?

**Mr. Caron:** Wednesday, December 21, 1960.

[Mr. Caron.]

(Translation):

**Mr. Caron:** Mr. Speaker, I usually listen to the speeches of the hon. members across the floor without interrupting them; and I hope that they will show me the same courtesy and allow me to go on with my remarks.

I have here another editorial from the *Gazette* of December 21, 1960 of which I shall quote only one sentence, because time does not allow me to read a longer quotation:

(Text):

It might be said that such measures might better have been presented in the budget last spring, where their effect might have offset some of the subsequent economic decline.

(Translation):

Now this newspaper is certainly not known as a supporter of the Liberal party.

Unfortunately, time passes quickly. I shall probably not have enough time to show how Canadians across the country reacted to this budget, but I should like to quote the following which Mr. Norman Campbell wrote in the *Ottawa Citizen* of December 21, 1960:

(Text):

The baby budget generally was soundly conservative in the classic sense of the word. As we understand conservative economic theory it is that if the economy generally is healthy then the benefits will distribute themselves to the population generally without specific transfer payments to individuals.

(Translation):

That is indeed the attitude shown by the Conservatives. A Conservative government, according to its theory, believes that prosperity must come from above rather than from below.

There has been an attempt to spread benefits among the wealthy of this world in the hope that it would fall back on the mass like a gentle rain; that is where the Conservatives are wrong.

Mr. Speaker, here is now a headline from the newspaper *Le Droit*, of Ottawa:

Budget no Christmas gift: Program to help the industry of this country.

And in the same newspaper *Le Droit* of the same date, that is December 21, 1960, Mr. Jean Taillefer wrote:

A budget for businessmen.

Once again the big fellows were not forgotten but no one gave a thought to the small man. If at least, there had been a tax cut on cigarettes.

Those are some of the objections which could be heard among the general public, Tuesday night, after the Minister of Finance (Mr. Fleming) brought down the supplementary budget.

Then again we can read in the *Gazette* of December 21 an article written by Arthur Blakely in which he said:

(Text):

Economic Self-reliance Target as Canadian Business Aided. Fleming Impresses Himself.