

The Address—Mr. Sevigny

An hon. Member: None.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): What reply did the minister or the government give to that proposal? I ask the Minister of Labour or the Prime Minister, who is now in his seat, to produce whatever reply, if any, was ever made to the municipal corporation of the city of Windsor that joined with its industrial commission in the recommendations made. Only within the last three weeks, I was asked to raise this matter on behalf of the council, because it had not been able to get from this government any indication of whether it proposes to try to solve the problem in that area and in other areas of Canada through solutions such as those involved in the United Kingdom local improvement act of 1950.

I say it is no wonder that the council of the corporation of the city of Windsor has interested itself in this matter, and has done so unanimously. I refer to a city council made up of the representatives of all political parties represented in this house. Instead of getting from the government a positive approach we are simply told by the Prime Minister and others, "We have laid a solid foundation for economic security in this country, and we are building on this foundation; we are realizing our new vision in this way". The Minister of Labour says "Don't worry; everything is going to be well for the balance of 1962". He fails to emphasize the fact that at the present time, in terms of unemployment in Canada, everything is not well.

I do not say that this is an easy problem to solve. No one makes that suggestion. However, we are entitled to have from this government evidence of having confronted this problem in a manner consistent with the severity of its effects. We have challenges ahead of us. We have challenges facing us now. We must get this country on the move again. We must expand our economy. The government must resort to policies directed toward that objective. We must cure massive chronic unemployment in this country. We are not having from this government evidence that it realizes the necessity for doing so.

Mr. Diefenbaker: The same old needle.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): The Prime Minister says "The same old thing".

Mr. Diefenbaker: No; I said that it is the same old needle.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): The Prime Minister says—

Mr. Diefenbaker: Change the record.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): The Prime Minister says "Change the record". May I say that I was sent here, along with other

members of parliament, to remind the Prime Minister that one of the things he assured the Canadian people in 1958 was that no one would suffer because of unemployment.

Mr. Diefenbaker: So long as public works were needed. I would ask the hon. member to give the quotation correctly.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): The government has not discharged that responsibility. It is my responsibility as a member of this house, particularly one who comes from an area in which there is a high level of unemployment, to remind the government of its obligations in this regard.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I regret to interrupt the hon. member but I must inform him that his time has expired.

(Translation):

Hon. Pierre Sevigny (Associate Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, once again, we, in this house, have had the pleasure of seeing that the hon. member for Essex East (Mr. Martin) missed his calling. He got up with this sad look on his face which he so expertly takes on whenever he speaks of unemployment, this woe-begone expression which comes to him naturally—

Mr. Martin (Essex East): That is a matter of opinion.

Mr. Sevigny:—and we have seen him riding to death his favourite subject, that of unemployment in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I have feelings of esteem and friendship toward the hon. member for Essex East. Like other members of this house, I admire his eloquence. Indeed, were I not, like other members, aware of the facts, I would be influenced by the hon. member's eloquence. But the facts are there to prove that, far from being in a slump, the Canadian economy has now reached a level of prosperity unheard of in this nation's history since confederation.

In the eloquent speeches they made in the house, the mover and seconder of the address in reply to the speech from the throne, the hon. members for Laval (Mr. Bourdages) and for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Browne), clearly stated that according to economic experts on the staff of newspapers like the *Financial Post*, the *Financial Times* and *Time* magazine, the Canadian economy is heading for new heights under the competent leadership of Prime Minister John Diefenbaker and his lieutenants.

Those magazine articles explain that surveys conducted throughout the Canadian industry reveal that the leaders of our primary and secondary industries agree that 1962 will mark