Waste and Mismanagement

An example of what has happened since the socialist government was defeated in Manitoba is as follows. Finance minister Donald Craik said:

Private investment in Manitoba during 1978 increased by 22 per cent, the highest increase of any province in Canada.

Mr. Craik went on to say:

—he was "naturally encouraged" by the revised figures from Statistics Canada on private investment last year.

I will now cite national figures. In 1970 to 1972 direct investment abroad was \$1 billion a year. For 1976 to 1978 it was \$3.1 billion. Investors have no faith in this government and that is why they are taking their money elsewhere. The examples of the situation for Manitoba which I gave a moment ago are an exact duplicate of what is happening across the country. Investors do not put ads in the paper; they do not tell anyone; they just silently move away. If anyone wants to challenge the figures, he can come to my office and I will give him statistics that show the number of businesses and the amount of money that have left this country over the last three or four years.

Whether a country is being run properly is evidenced by the amount of money it can attract as investment. Canada attracts very little. Foreign investors do not look kindly on this nation. In 1970 to 1972 direct foreign investment in Canada was \$2.4 billion. Today it is \$0.025 billion and declining. We will have these serious problems with unemployment, and what have you, as long as we have socialist governments, which the Prime Minister says he wants to plant in different provinces, and as long as we have the socialist philosophy we have here.

If we ever have an election and this government is re-elected, we will have exchange controls. This government has repeatedly denied it will impose exchange controls. This government cannot control money leaving this country and it cannot attract money. People abroad are discussing the subject of exchange controls. In the March 16, 1979, edition of Myers' Finance & Energy is an article entitled "Exchange Controls Coming?" The Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance (Mr. Chrétien) on many occasions have denied that exchange controls will be imposed, but they have no credibility at all. Their word means nothing. We have already seen that evidenced during the last federal election campaign concerning wage and price controls, and the other ridiculous statements made by the Prime Minister that he will control expenditures, which I have read into the record today. In the Myers' Finance & Energy March 16 edition it is reported:

Just as obviously Canada cannot continue to tolerate this haemorrhage of funds.

That suggests foreign exchange controls. That means permits to get money out. Just how stringent, liberal or temporary, remains to be seen. But controls, once started, could hardly be removed as long as this threat of Quebec's separation hangs over the country.

We have a double-jointed problem, Mr. Speaker. If the Canadian people are considering returning this government to power they will be faced with exchange controls. Government members can make all the statements they want denying imposition of such a thing but their word means absolutely nothing. Canada's situation is being analysed from abroad. I

have given you the figures showing the amount of money which is leaving this country, as well as the little bit that is dribbling in. We cannot survive. The only solution which the government can come up with is either to print more money, borrow more money, or spend more money. Let me remind hon. members that in order to pay the interest charges on Canada's debt it costs Canadian taxpayers \$23 million a day. But here we have the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Buchanan) and the hon. member for Comox-Alberni telling us how wonderful everything is and that they have everything under control.

In fiscal 1980 total federal spending, budgetary and non-budgetary, will reach \$52.6 billion. This figure is up \$4.3 billion, or 8.9 per cent from the \$48.3 billion spending forecast in fiscal 1979. The \$4.3 billion in planned spending increases is the largest dollar increase in spending since fiscal 1976, the year in which the 1975 federal spending restraint program began.

It is interesting to note that when the present Minister of Finance was the president—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): Order, please. I regret to inform the hon. member that his allotted time has expired. He may continue with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

[Translation]

Mr. Marcel Roy (Laval): First I want to congratulate the hon. member for Calgary Centre (Mr. Andre) for his motion which reads as follows, and I quote:

That this House condemns the government for its continuing waste and mismanagement, and its failure to implement management and administrative procedures that will ensure that the taxpayers' funds are spent efficiently, effectively, and according to the will of parliament.

That initiative will give us an opportunity to explain to the people of this country the various government policies, the allocation of budgets, the cuts made in several departments, the various recommendations that were made in the last few years. The wording of this motion is very general and resembles somewhat the comments we hear more and more often. Those comments are heard in families not only in my riding, in my province, in this country, but I think those remarks or comments are heard all over the planet. Let me explain. I think we all heard it said that the man who asks his wife for more details about the management of the family budget occasionally has a few not always very flattering remarks to make to his wife. But that happens regularly in all families, as I was saying, not only in Canada but all over the planet. It is part of the reason why I congratulate the hon. member for Calgary Centre for pointing out that situation with his motion which allows the government to explain the