

Supply

If we are going to be judged by our actions then the NDP members who have proposed this particular motion should do a *mea culpa*. Perhaps an examination of conscience might be a first step.

The province of Ontario is suffering greatly, there is no question. I indicated before that the recession induced by the government opposite has created a terrible economic environment for Ontario. Its manufacturing base is decreased by about 25 per cent. If we cannot raise taxes from Ontario, from where are we going to get funds to distribute to all Canadians.

What we are doing is killing the goose that lays the golden egg.

That does not mean that the money is not there for Ontario. In fact, when it comes to transfers from the federal government to Ontario for health care and services, Ontario received 41 per cent of the over-all total. Now that is my province with 36 per cent of the population.

Yes, there have been reductions. I regret those reductions but I cannot accept the argument that there is no money coming to Ontario. What I can accept is that the government of the day is being irresponsible with the way it is using that money. It is being irresponsible in the same way that the government is being with its economic policies.

Then it comes crying to the general public and says it has no money. It has to close down these hospitals, but it still believes in universality.

It says it is sorry that patients have to wait from two to eight months before they can get to see a specialist, before they can receive the care that they need because the province does not have any money.

But it really does believe that everybody should have access to health care whenever they need it, whenever they want it, but do not need it for another eight months my friend.

Some of this silly frivolous nonsense is spilling over on to the NDP. They are using an allotted day to point their fingers at other premiers who are thinking about ways to get around the problem. The province of Ontario decides that the solution is to borrow \$9 billion last year, \$11 billion this coming year, to provide the kind of

services that it says is essential. I believe they are essential but that the province should be responsible in the way that it administers the money it borrows.

There is no question in my mind that what is happening is a great scam and the NDP caucus at the federal level is now standing up for the provinces at great risk to itself by introducing such a frivolous motion. It is a silly motion to hide the fact that the provincial Government of Ontario and the other provincial NDP Governments of Saskatchewan and British Columbia are going to engage in some massive tax increases that are going to make them very unpopular by trying to point the finger at federal or at Liberal provincial premiers elsewhere.

Canadians are fed up with that kind of tactic. Canadians are fed up with tax increases. The Conservative government opposite since the 1989 budget alone increased taxation by 16.5 per cent. That followed what they trumpet as the largest and the most productive economic period in Canadian history. They would have had more money from the economy than they ever would have needed, yet they increased taxation by a further 16.5 per cent.

Worst than that, they did what the NDP government in Ontario and the NDP government in Saskatchewan is doing, and what the NDP government in British Columbia is threatening today and that is increase the public debt and the deficit in order to save the day. The government opposite since 1989 increased the public debt by 27.3 per cent. I shudder to think what the NDP governments in those three provinces, including my own province, are going to do in the upcoming budget.

I shudder because I know I have to pay that bill. I know that my colleagues and my constituents have to pay that bill. I know as well that every time the government opposite at the federal level increased its rate of taxation, the provincial governments sneaked in with an additional portion. They received a cut of that tax increase without having to admit that they were raising taxes.

My colleague for Broadview—Greenwood would say this would be a great time to talk about a single tax. I hope he gets an opportunity to deal with that. At least, it would deprive some of these provincial premiers of the opportunity to scam a few more bucks out of the unsuspecting taxpayer.