

### Employment Programs

world into depression, since the economic system is the same throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, not one government went out of its way to seek real solutions to the problem, because like causes produce like effects. We have always acted like that and we never succeeded in solving the problem.

The Conservative members blame the government through all sorts of means, but they do not propose any practical solution other than asking the government to show losses, to present deficit budgets in order to enable Canadian citizens to live decently.

The New Democratic Party and the Progressive Conservatives request full employment. In order to obtain full employment, it is necessary to invest money and to invest, it is necessary to borrow money. When a man borrows money he gets into unimaginable debts, for he simply cannot refund more money than he gets in the first place. If we borrow money, we have to repay it, plus the interests which have never been put into circulation—something nobody ever thinks about!

Mr. Speaker, there are interest rates of 9, 10, 15 and even 25 per cent. They are of no concern, they please everyone, and even the NDP is happy with them. They are not considered excessive.

But when financiers go up the financial scale, banks and financial institutions make unbelievable profits. They increase their assets by billions of dollars each time. Unfortunately, they do not pay the taxes they should. Unfortunately, they build up alarming reserves that paralyse the Canadian economy, that paralyse the financial situation of every citizen. Not one Conservative, Liberal or NDP member makes a protest. No one asks that those who do not pay taxes be made to do so. There are two or three tax schedules. There should be only one and everyone should be taxed equitably. If we did this, we would introduce a bit of logic into the settlement of our problems.

When I look at newspaper headlines, I realize that there are 9,000 more unemployed in Canada, which is the greatest increase in unemployment in 13 years. In the field of unemployment, Quebec remains at the top; it had 23,000 more unemployed in 1970. Here is the type of headlines one can read in the newspapers: "Quebec is said to be satisfied with the number of unemployed", "17,000 Montrealers laid off in 1970", "Only 10,000 new jobs created in Quebec in 1970", "75,000 new jobs per year must be created in Quebec from now till 1975", "250 employees laid off at Lachute", "Closing down of another plant in Ville St. Laurent".

Mr. Speaker, a while ago I could hear a Liberal member say that the government should establish a type of financial agency to finance industry. But industry needs neither the Liberals nor the Conservatives to lend it money. What industry requires is a means to profitably market its products. If industry finds an outlet for its production, it does not need the help of the government.

On the other hand, if industry does not succeed in selling its products it has to store them in warehouses and call on financial firms with the famous form 88 authorizing loans to industrialists or the financing of

industries' stocks or inventories at an interest rate of 12 p. 100.

This increases the cost of products and does not help to sell them. Every warehouse is filled to the rafters and new loans are requested from banks to further boost production; yet the problem does not exist at the production level but in distribution.

Instead of taxing or overtaxing the consumer, he should have more money to spend. Then governments will not need to worry about the operation of industries. Industries are operating as long as consumers have some ready money to buy the products.

If the production of industries is increased but remains unsold, what will happen? At the present time, many industries in Canada have received government grants. They operated during six months, a year or two with those grants, after which they were compelled to close down.

I know one in my constituency which received a \$700,000 grant from the federal government. It operated six months, but it is now closed.

What was the use of those \$700,000? The industry is unable to sell its products. Warehouses and yards are full of unsold products. Now, what will happen? What is the use of those grants? They are useless.

I would like once for all that we open our eyes and our ears in order to find solutions to the problem.

Solutions are easy to find and enumerate. The cost of living must be reduced, not raised. Products cost too much and do not sell well because there are too many taxes.

Taxes must be lowered, and if that is not enough, governments should issue credits to reduce production costs, give compensated discounts in overproducing sectors. If we cannot sell the products because they are too expensive in spite of discounts, then we shall lower the prices of goods and thus re-establish the true value of the Canadian dollar. Besides, we shall be able to compete with other countries. Otherwise, our products will no longer be competitive, considering our present economic system.

Wages and taxes keep going up. The higher the taxes the more problems there are, and the higher the cost of goods the less you can sell them. The higher the cost of goods, because of increases in salaries and taxes, the less money the taxpayer has to buy what he needs.

There are still needs to be met. But they cannot be met by restricting credit, by levying taxes, by accepting that our governments pay overly high interest rates to financiers who exploit the people. The people are fleeced for ever more, so that the interest can be paid to the financiers. But the people are sent packing!

They say here that we are on the brink of revolution. We know that is true.

One can read this in *La Voix de l'Est* for January 16, 1971, and I quote:

In the last few years, it has been said and repeated hundreds, thousands of times that unemployment is the worst evil in Quebec.

But saying it over and over again will not remedy the situation. Nobody cures an illness by proclaiming from the housetops

[Mr. Latulippe.]