

When we request the establishment of students' salary, not a program to get them into debt or to abet laziness, but a program to assist effectively those who want to study and do something in life, we suggest that this is a right similar to any worker's, provided of course they are seriously interested in getting their degrees.

So we suggest that a salary be paid to students. We are a nation where freedom exists. I have seen Communist countries where students are paid salaries, the University of Moscow, for one. In fact, I was in Moscow with my good friend, the hon. member for Gaspé (Mr. Cyr), and we talked to students. They were not being paid much, no, but just the same they were getting \$30 a month. This kind of money in Russia amounts to quite a substantial sum when one considers that workers are getting only \$45 or \$55 a week.

Similar legislation would help our young people get a training and take active part in building up a well-balanced society. They would no longer dream of overthrowing this society of ours because they would feel capable of being integrated into it. Our young people would have more faith in the future.

Another point I want to insist upon is the national dividend. The reaction is always the same: it would promote laziness and create inflation. Still, we never had any national dividend nor any social credit administration and look at the kind of inflation we can get into!

One year ago, for the purpose of fighting inflation, the government authorized the Bank of Canada to raise its interest rate. So chartered banks followed suit and interest rates skyrocketed.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) then replied "This will help fight inflation, what does it matter if unemployment results". Naturally, unemployment resulted. There was a smothered uprising in Quebec. There is protest throughout Canada. Even in British Columbia youth are revolting against the system. Then the Prime Minister wakes up and says that to fight unemployment they will cut interest rates. So they lower interest rates to reduce unemployment, so they say, and they create more inflation because the system is basically inflationary.

They fool the population year after year. Thanks to a few billion dollars, we will probably create jobs in the spring and then call an election to make the people believe that the government has finally managed to lick unemployment, even if it should mean more unemployed next fall.

We speak of a national dividend, not to create inflation but to balance the purchasing power of the Canadian people with the goods available in Canada. We are told that the gross national product will be of \$90 billion this year, and that the Canadians will earn about \$65 billion. There will be a gap of \$25 billion between what the people produce and what they earn. We want to balance the purchasing power with present production, in goods and services.

Mr. Speaker, I have repeatedly suggested that this solution be tried out. Let us not adopt the monthly dividend right now, in order not to make a mistake.

Alleged Non-Support of Employment Programs

However, I ask the government to try and apply our solutions.

• (3:50 p.m.)

The government should direct the Bank of Canada to distribute forthwith to each Canadian citizen, man, woman or child, the sum of \$100. That would be a distribution of purchasing power not affecting prices and directly originating from the Bank of Canada. The money supply would be increased by 2.1 billion dollars. A family of 10 persons would get \$1,000; a family of 5 would receive \$500; a family of 2 would have \$200, and a bachelor would get \$100. It would not take more than two months to bring about a change in this country.

If the people have a greater purchasing power at their disposal, they will empty the shelves in stores. Merchants will go and get products from industries. If industries sell their products, they will hire unemployed people to increase their production. We will then, thanks to the consumers, have efficiently fought unemployment in Canada.

We would not hear then that Massey-Ferguson has laid off 2,750 employees. We would not hear about the closing down of sawmills, textile plants and others.

There will always be some other problems to solve. We agree. The problem lies in the lack of purchasing power.

The Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson) has spoken about the over-production of milk, for example, in the province of Quebec; he maintains that our dairy industry produces too much and that dairy producers must be penalized if they exceed their quota.

Mr. Speaker, that is a big lie spoken to the people of Canada. I know families in Montreal and in my own riding, and also in Hull and there may be some in Ottawa who would need seven, eight or maybe even ten quarts of milk a day for their children. But they can only afford one or two each day. And we are being told that there is an over-production of milk.

Mr. Speaker, the problem in our country is under-production of milk, clothing, farm machinery and automobiles.

Mr. Speaker: May I interrupt the hon. member to remind him and the House that he has run out of time, under the order adopted by the House earlier today.

The hon. member may, of course, carry on with his remarks, provided there is unanimous agreement by the House.

An hon. Member: Agreed.

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Speaker, I should like to thank my hon. colleagues, and I shall not take up any longer the time of the House.

I would like to suggest again to the government that Social Credit has been derided, ridiculed, but that, today, we are confronted by the serious problem of poverty and increased unemployment in Canada, problem likely to lead to chaos, to discontent and rebellion, not only in Quebec, but throughout the country.