They’re Taking It Away

Although Ian Robb’s wonderful song dates back to the budget cuts imposed by Michael Wilson, it has acquired new currency with the slash-and-burn economics adopted by political leaders across the country. In an interesting coincidence, this issue of the Bulletin goes to bed in the wake of the devastating “mini-budget” of Mike “The Knife” Harris in Ontario. It’s déjà vu all over again... [Michael Pollock]

“They’re Taking it Away” is on Robb’s new release, From Different Angels (reviewed in the Bulletin 29.3), available from Fallen Angle Music, 285 Spencer Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 2R1.

Moderate; \( J = \text{approx. } 96 \)

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Ch:

"Oh, they’re taking it a-way, yes they’re taking it a-way. They’re taking all the
good things," you can hear the people say, And they’ll take it all tomorrow if they don’t take it to-
day; From the poor and sick and helpless they are taking it a-way. Oh the government, elected in our democratic way, is whining at the cost of all the things they have to pay. And the bully boys on Bay Street, you can hear the bastards say, "Oh to hell with paying taxes; pull the safety net away."
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If you’re battered by your husband and you’ve nowhere else to stay,
You’d best get down upon your knees and quickly learn to pray.
For the women’s center’s phone was disconnected yesterday
And there’s no one left to turn to, now they’ve taken it away.

Oh, there’s those that have and those that don’t and those who are OK
And those who understand that fairness is the only way;
Then there’s those who are so comfortable, they look the other way,
And they vote for all the villains who would take it all away.

So if you’ve health and wealth and wisdom, stop and spare a thought today,
For them that don’t and them that can’t, it is the only way,
Or we might as well give up the ghost and join the USA,
For there won’t be any difference when they take it all away.

**Chorus:**

"Oh, they’re taking it away, yes, they’re taking it away,
They’re taking all the good things," you can hear the people say,
And they’ll take it all tomorrow if they don’t take it today;
From the poor and sick and helpless they are taking it away.