

S.O. 21

which could have led any person reading them to come to the conclusion that perhaps the victim was at least in part to blame.

I want to suggest that rape is in itself a crime that cannot be shared by the victim and the perpetrator, and it must be made clear to those who sit on the bench that comments such as this are not the kinds of comments that are acceptable to those of us who sit in the House of Commons.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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● (1410)

THE ECONOMY

STIMULATION PROVIDED BY PROFIT MOTIVE

Mr. Paul Gagnon (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, both the Liberals and the NDP have raised questions concerning the profits of oil companies. They both think profit is a dirty word. Without profits, taxes are not paid, jobs are not created, and investments are not made. What entrepreneur will open a store, plant a field, drill a well, build a machine, fish the sea, or commence a mine, without the anticipation of reward? Profits have made our society the richest and most diverse, and have given the entrepreneurial spirit the room and the reason to soar.

The difference between our system and the communistic society is the profit motive. It was the anticipation of profit that spawned the development of computers, xeroxing technology, micro chips, and universal jet travel. I ask you, Mr. Speaker, what has the communist society invented? Profits are what drives this industry, this country, this society.

[Translation]

Hurray for the profits!

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

BENEFITS—DELAYS

Hon. Jean Lapierre (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I should like to call your attention and that of the House to a situation which exists now in Canada and especially in the province of Quebec. Unacceptable delays are presently experienced regarding the payment of unemployment insurance benefits. It is a fact that the Unemployment Insurance Commission has been faced with major staff relations problems for the past few months at its payment centre, and I could mention a number of cases where recipients have not received their benefits for the past three months. Departmental officials' reaction is that this is a labour dispute which unfortunately cannot be settled overnight.

I call on the Hon. Minister of Employment and Immigration (Miss MacDonald) to intervene personally to ensure that unemployment benefit recipients, who cannot afford to wait for months in a row to get their benefits, get them as quickly as possible. We are aware of the problems at the data processing centre, but individuals have to pay the rent and cannot afford to wait for their cheques.

We know that for the past few months, the Unemployment Insurance Commission has built up a backlog of hundreds of files concerning people who can rightfully claim unemployment insurance benefits, having paid their contributions, and who are now faced with serious financial problems because the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Miss MacDonald) has failed to act.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure all Hon. Members are coming across similar cases in their respective ridings, and I hope that within the next few weeks, or days rather, the Minister of Employment and Immigration will personally intervene to put an end to this situation, and instead of hiring between 700 and 800 police officers—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please! I regret to interrupt the Hon. Member.

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[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LEGACY OF 1945 YALTA AGREEMENT

Mr. Joe Reid (St. Catharines): Mr. Speaker, today marks the closing date of the Crimean conference ending in the Yalta agreement 40 years ago. The Yalta agreement divided Europe into two blocs of political influence and set the stage for the cold war. For 40 years millions of people have been deprived of the right to self-determination and self-government, and are subject to limited human rights and individual movement. It was at Yalta, as well, that a group of Soviet trained communists were declared the nucleus of the future Polish provisional Government, this without any Polish representation.

One cannot but wonder at the hypocrisy of the Yalta agreement. What good was supposed to result from invoking "the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live" if no guarantees were provided to ensure that the principle would in fact be adhered to?

From the point of view of international law, the Yalta agreement does not fulfil the formal criteria of an international treaty. The legality of the agreement is further eroded because it was transacted without the agreement of the peoples affected.

Forty years after the signing of an agreement which resulted in the vast expansion of the Soviet empire and the creation of a zone of instability in the middle of Europe, it would be appropriate for the Parliament of Canada to issue a statement denouncing the Soviet domination over central and eastern