

S. O. 31

We already control those petroleum resources in the ground because most are owned by the Crown and all development is controlled by regulation. How much more control do we need?

Let us get rid of this last vestige of the National Energy Program—type of thinking and let us get on with building a vibrant and competitive energy sector.

I and colleagues from Alberta call on cabinet to remove all restrictions to investment in the energy sector as soon as possible.

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• (1110)

POVERTY

Ms. Mary Clancy (Halifax): Madam Speaker, the National Council on Welfare, in its most recent report, *Welfare Incomes 1990*, reports that the incomes of 1.9 million Canadians on assistance across the country now fall well below the poverty line. Specifically many welfare recipients have actually seen their benefits decrease in value over the last several years due to the absence of automatic cost of living increases in basic rates. This drags these payments to abysmally low levels.

In Nova Scotia, for example, total income for a single parent with one child is barely over \$11,000 and for a couple with two children, barely over \$14,000. Those of a disabled person and a single employable person are \$8,164 and \$5,982 respectively.

These figures are woefully inadequate given the fact that the income of a single parent with one child totals only 66 per cent of that defined as the poverty level annual income.

For a government that speaks of competitiveness, the record belies belief. Poor children are often hungry—

Madam Deputy Speaker: I am sorry, the hon. member's time has expired.

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FARLEY MOWAT

Mr. Garth Turner (Halton—Peel): Madam Speaker, I rise on a very serious issue which I would like the Speaker to take into immediate consideration.

Last night in Toronto, at an awards ceremony held by the Council of Canadians, author Farley Mowat made some deeply disturbing remarks. Mr. Mowat called the Prime Minister a traitor. Mr. Mowat then urged Canadians to take up arms against the current lawfully elected Government of Canada.

I consider these remarks to be in contempt of Parliament, Madam Speaker. I am standing in my place asking you if you will rule on this matter and instruct hon. members what action should be taken against a public figure who has publicly advocated armed insurrection against Parliament.

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EASTERN ONTARIO

Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke): Madam Speaker, I call upon the government to bring in a particular program for regional development in eastern Ontario.

This part of the province of Ontario and this part of Canada is the one remaining part in the entire nation that does not have a particular regional development program. Many jobs have been lost: 265,000 across Ontario have been lost, and we in eastern Ontario have contributed a great deal to that figure.

The added increase in UIC premiums is a burden on business and on those that are still employed. As unemployment insurance runs out for many people they go on the social net. That means an added burden on municipalities and an increase in municipal taxes because this government has shoved its responsibility to lower levels of government.

The chairman of the finance committee indicated after the last election that eastern Ontario would be punished for voting Liberal. It seems today that he knew what he was talking about at that time.

All we are asking for is a sense of decency in the democratic process, a sense of fairness in—

Madam Deputy Speaker: I am sorry, but the hon. member's time has expired.