

*Government Orders*

responsibility in this assembly to come to grips with targeting social programs and to be very fiscally accountable.

In my last few moments I would like to refer to a report that was done in Alberta in 1967. This report is a white paper on human resource development. It was written by the Hon. Ernest Manning at a time when I was in his cabinet as the Minister of Public Welfare. A major author of this was also his son, now the leader of the Reform Party.

We put this white paper together and I am not referencing it just for the sake of bringing this document here. There are some basic principles in this paper that looked at human resource development. It was the first document put together in Canada on human resource development. We in the province of Alberta introduced that concept. Following that period of time there were other provinces and also the federal government of the day that accepted some of the basic philosophy of the human resource concept.

There were three basic objectives. One was to look at programs of maintenance. There is a group of people in Canada that needs assistance and maintenance. The second one was rehabilitation and the third was preventative programs.

We had leading programs in the area of prevention in Canada and I would like to recommend that to the committee for study.

**Mr. Reg Alcock (Winnipeg South):** Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for Lethbridge for his remarks. I am pleased to note that his book is also red and I could reference another red book that may expand on some of the points they raised so long ago.

I have a curiosity about part of what he presents.

• (1645)

On the one hand his party has spoken strongly against any expansion of taxes, any increase in taxes or anything to do with causing people to pay more. Yet on the other hand his party is quite willing to support user fees which by definition will cause people to pay more for services they receive. I wonder if he can reconcile this contradiction for me.

**Mr. Speaker (Lethbridge):** That is an excellent question from the hon. member. We look at it this way. If we are able to reduce the cost of government, people will have more money in their pockets to pay for some of their services.

There is a direct relationship between the reduction of the cost of government and being able to pay for some of one's own needs. In the four areas I mentioned, in terms of food, clothing, shelter and health care, we would look at the individual having more of a direct relationship between using the service and paying for the service.

**Mr. Pat O'Brien (London—Middlesex):** Mr. Speaker, since my hon. friend made reference to my earlier comments I hoped I would have the opportunity to ask him a question. I appreciate that.

I made my point that to reform is to improve a situation. It is to find a better way. Frankly that is the liberal way, and the party that has consistently done that most effectively in this country is the Liberal Party on this side.

Can the hon. member tell us how the destruction of the national health care standards, which is the result of those policies put forward by his party, would improve the situation for Canadians in need? Can he go on and explain to us those specific improvements in the social security system that the Reform Party stands for?

The hon. member uses the phrase "target social programs" and that is the difference. We want to target social problems. Can the hon. member enlighten us on those points?

**Mr. Speaker (Lethbridge):** In terms of the first question, if that reform means improving things and doing better we certainly agree with that.

In terms of our targeting social programs and the hon. member said social problems, I think we are using semantics more than anything. I believe what the hon. member is saying is that individuals out there are in need and that is who we would target. We would have to categorize for example those that we feel need incentive and encouragement to go back to work, look after themselves as our economy picks up. We should have that kind of flavour in our society. Our Prime Minister said the other day that he wanted to get rid of dependency. We agree with that.

**The Deputy Speaker:** It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 38, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Haldimand—Norfolk—Dairy industry; the hon. member for Scarborough—Rouge River—Rouge River valley; the hon. member for Beaches—Woodbine—Immigration; the hon. member for Rimouski—Témiscouata—Policy on appointments; and the hon. member for Richmond—Wolfe—Unemployment insurance.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take a few moments this afternoon to discuss the reform of Canada's social security system.

Given your role here in this House you are of course non partisan, but you will remember clearly that, during the last election campaign, our party made a commitment to the people of Canada. Indeed, we promised to give new confidence to the majority of Canadians about having a job and a more promising