

SUPPLY AND SERVICES

PUBLICATION OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT STATISTICS

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I should start by thanking the after-dinner speaker who just read.

My question is directed to the Minister of Supply and Services. It concerns the Government's attempt to hide facts once again. Every month the Minister publishes a leaflet which is entitled *Research and Development Bulletin*, and these documents usually contain the names of people receiving government contracts in R and D, and usually statistics by region concerning research and development. Can the Minister explain to this House why it is, starting this month, this publication will no longer carry statistics by region on research and development? Is the Government's record so shameful it is now trying to hide it?

[Translation]

Hon. Monique Vézina (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, I would like to reassure the Hon. Member that I have no intention of practicing censorship, I am not that kind of woman.

I suspended information on research and development statistics because they were confusing. But in my capacity as Minister in charge of Statistics Canada, data from Statistics Canada can always be used because they cover the overall picture of what is being done at the research and development level.

CANADIAN PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO KNOW TRUTH

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the Minister. She just stated statistics on overall research are available. Now, she knows full well her document gave them by region. Why does the Minister still insist the disclosure of information to the public is confusing? Is the truth so confusing? Is it not true Canadians have a right to know the facts and draw their own conclusions in that matter?

Hon. Monique Vézina (Minister of Supply and Services): As I said, Mr. Speaker, the statistics that were published by my Department were only sketchy, segmental data, and were misleading. This government wants to supply overall information in the most genuine way possible. This is why Statistics Canada will be able to supply you with all the data concerning research and development.

Unemployment Insurance

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFIT ENTITLEMENT ADJUSTMENT (PENSION PAYMENTS) ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Bouchard that Bill C-50, an Act respecting the treatment of pension payments in determining certain unemployment insurance benefit entitlements and to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971 be read the second time and referred to a legislative committee; and the amendment of Mr. Allmand (p. 6872).

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): When the House rose at one o'clock p.m. the Hon. Member for Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands (Mr. Manly) had the floor.

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands): Madam Speaker, when we broke for lunch, I had been asking what kind of worker the Government was discriminating against with the November 1984 regulations. What kind of person did the Government see as ripping off the unemployment insurance system? I read a letter from a worker who had been paying into unemployment insurance for 38 years and had never filed a claim, then found he had been disqualified. I would like to read another letter. My correspondent states, and I quote:

I would like some information on U.I.C. claims with reference to military annuities. I was retired due to my age in 1979 after serving 25 years in the Canadian Forces (sea). My gross pension is \$685.00 which is very difficult for my wife and I to live on.

With the employment situation as it is in the Cowichan Valley it is next to impossible at my age to get a full-time job. I had part-time work until last month and due to cut-backs was laid off and am unable to draw U.I.C. benefits.

As I have been paying into this long before January, 1986, I was wondering if I will be able to draw again.

Thank you for looking into this matter for me.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Order. I am sure all Hon. Members would like to extend the courtesy of being heard to their colleague. The Chair would certainly like to hear the Hon. Member as well.

Mr. Manly: Madam Speaker, even if my colleagues did not wish to extend the courtesy of listening to me, perhaps they could extend the courtesy to those workers who have been discriminated against with this kind of legislation. The working people of Canada deserve at least to have their case heard by this House rather than that it be drowned by this babble of conversation taking place at the present time.

We have to ask how Bill C-50 addresses the injustice perpetrated upon the working people. How does it address the discrimination which has resulted in these people paying into the unemployment insurance system all these years and when it comes to their turn to draw benefits, they find they are