

*Unemployment*

as New Zealand, where they do not have a capitalist philosophy operating in their economy at the present time. Therefore I for one believe that to the political democracy we have to add the economic democracy; and by economic democracy I mean full employment, self-determination and the means by which we can have fullness of life in an economy rich with resources.

We can have that, Mr. Speaker, when the government opposite is prepared to sit down and do some thinking and some planning, and put into operation some of the things we on this side of the house have asked it to do.

**Mr. J. W. Noseworthy (York South):** Mr. Speaker, I have in my hand a letter from Miss Nora Lea, president of the Toronto branch of the Canadian association of social workers. This letter is of interest to every member from metropolitan Toronto, and I presume each member of the house who comes from metropolitan Toronto has received a similar letter. It is an invitation to us to attend a meeting of this association to be held in Toronto on Saturday morning next. The purpose of the meeting, as stated in the letter, is this:

—we would like to consider with you what is the present situation with respect to employable people for whom jobs are not available, who are ineligible for unemployment insurance, or whose benefits have run out.

The concluding paragraph of the letter states:

We will look forward to considering some of these aspects with you and your colleagues in the house as well as the members of the other level of government in the Toronto area. This is a matter of serious import to great numbers of men, women and children in this community.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the problem which confronts me and the other members from the Toronto area—and it must also confront the Liberal members as well as the opposition members—is that although this debate has been going on since the 1st of March we have as yet received little information from the government which we could take back to these people on Saturday morning in order to tell them what is the answer to their problem.

I presume the minister will be closing this debate, so I would ask him if he would be good enough to give a direct answer to two or three questions. First of all, can he give us some assurance that at the forthcoming meeting with the provinces this question of responsibility for the employable unemployed will be discussed, and that a serious effort will be made to reach an agreement regarding the responsibility for those people?

My second question is, will the minister consider extending the deadline for the supplementary unemployment insurance benefits beyond April 15, in view of the fact that late spring is approaching with its effect upon unemployment?

My third question is this. Has the government given consideration to or is the government prepared to take steps such as those suggested by the hon. member for Spadina? As far as I am aware, the hon. member for Spadina is the only member speaking from the government side who has put forth any concrete proposals as to what should be done, and who has done anything except make an effort to apologize for the government's present position. Has the government given consideration to undertaking a housing scheme, for instance, or any other public works program involving as it will deficit financing in order to meet the unemployment situation?

If the minister will give us an answer to these three simple questions we shall have something concrete to take back to these people with whom we will meet in Toronto on Saturday morning.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is the house ready for the question?

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

The house divided on the amendment to the amendment (Mr. Regier) which was negated on the following division:

**YEAS**

**Messrs:**

Aitken, Miss	Johnson (Kindersley)
Argue	Johnston (Bow River)
Bell	Jones
Bennett, Miss	Knight
Blackmore	Knowles
Blair	Leboe
Brooks	Lennard
Bryce	Macdonnell
Cameron (Nanaimo)	McBain
Campbell	McCullough (Moose
Cardiff	Mountain)
Charlton	McGregor
Churchill	McLeod
Diefenbaker	Michener
Drew	Mitchell (London)
Fairclough, Mrs.	Monteith
Ferguson	Montgomery
Fraser (Peterborough)	Nesbitt
Fulton	Nicholson
Gagnon	Nickle
Gillis	Noseworthy
Green	Nowlan
Hahn	Patterson
Hamilton (Notre Dame	Pearkes
de Grace)	Perron
Hamilton (York West)	Quelch
Hansell	Robinson (Bruce)
Harkness	Rowe
Hees	Small
Herridge	Stanton
Hodgson	Starr
Holowach	Stewart (Winnipeg
Howe (Wellington-	North)
Huron)	Thatcher