

S. O. 21

CHARTER OF RIGHTS

CALL FOR ENTRENCHMENT OF RIGHTS OF THE UNBORN

Mr. Girve Fretz (Erie): Mr. Speaker, I want to support the Private Members' motion put forward by the Hon. Member for Grey-Simcoe (Mr. Mitges) that would entrench the rights of the unborn in our Charter of Rights.

About two weeks ago some Members of Parliament and the public viewed a film in Room 200 of the West Block. It was on the subject of abortion. In this documentary film a camera probe was inserted into the mother's womb and took pictures of the unborn baby while it moved. Then we saw the surgeon insert into the woman's body forceps which crushed the baby's head and then pulled the baby apart, limb by limb, and pulled the parts out of the woman's body.

It is shocking to realize that babies are being murdered. Members should realize that this is not only happening in the first trimester, but in the third trimester as well, which means that after seven or eight months a baby in its mother's womb can be aborted. That is certainly murder, and I want to reiterate my support of the Private Member's motion by the Member for Grey Simcoe, that babies' rights be entrenched in the Charter of Rights.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS

UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS—CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES

Mr. George Henderson (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, the latest unemployment figures are out and, once again, they are not encouraging. Almost 1.4 million Canadians are unable to find jobs.

Ontario again has the lowest unemployment figures, with an unemployment rate of less than 7 per cent, while in Newfoundland it is over 20 per cent.

The Government's job-creation policies are not working. Premier Peterson's Government of Ontario has created hundreds of thousands of jobs over the last two years with good Liberal policy initiatives. I ask the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) to seek an immediate meeting with Premier Peterson to have a briefing on how to get the economy going and how to create jobs by adapting those policies of Mr. Peterson on a national basis.

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NUCLEAR ENERGY

POINT LEPREAU II PROJECT—SUGGESTED POSTPONEMENT

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver—Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, the New Democratic Party inquiry into the future of the

nuclear industry was in New Brunswick last week. We visited the Point Lepreau nuclear facility and heard from a number of people in Fredericton.

Premier Hatfield of New Brunswick is saying that he is cutting a deal with Ottawa to finance Point Lepreau II, a 300 megawatt reactor, with federal loan guarantees of up to \$2 billion.

The lobby behind this project is by Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, which is desperate for new projects, and by a provincial Premier who is desperately trying to get re-elected.

The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Masse), whom I questioned in committee yesterday, knows very little about any deal, so Premier Hatfield is really misleading his people in New Brunswick.

There should be no nuclear reactors constructed in this post-Chernobyl period, at least until safety, monitoring, and waste disposal problems are solved, and maybe not even then.

● (1115)

We heard from the wood-lot owners of New Brunswick who told us of the immense biomass potential, the potential for jobs in New Brunswick. The Minister should look at this possible future option. There are 21 plants manufacturing biomass in Maine and making energy from it. I ask the Minister to look at this project before going ahead with any financial guarantees for Lepreau II.

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MULTICULTURALISM

CALL FOR STRENGTHENING OF POLICY

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, the Government seems prepared to proceed with amendments to the Canadian Citizenship Act incorporating our multicultural reality but which would exclude a separate Multiculturalism Act. This initiative is ill conceived and completely out of step with the aspirations of Canada's ethnocultural communities.

The previous Liberal Government introduced legislation creating a distinct Multiculturalism Act which, unfortunately, died on the Order Paper. Subsequently two former Conservative Ministers for Multiculturalism carried on this Liberal initiative and consulted extensively with organizations across the country. The third Conservative Minister for Multiculturalism (Mr. Crombie) is now prepared to turn the clock back. I urge him to recognize that Canada's multicultural policy requires a strengthening of its legislative foundation.

The structures underpinning bilingualism and multiculturalism, which were born from the same B and B Commission, have taken very different paths. It is crucial that strides toward rectifying this be undertaken now.