

*Unemployment Insurance Act*

have looked at the need for women to play a meaningful role in the work force, but no significant improvements have been made. We have had calls in this party to compile the results of all those studies directed at increasing employment for women in the work force, and we have concluded that this has not happened.

Certainly the first part of the throne speech, which refers to a response to individual needs, has not in fact responded to the individual needs in the area of unemployment, to which Bill C-3 is addressed. One area to which the government should be responding in order to provide employment for people is that area involving energy supply. That is the second subject talked about in the throne speech, specifically the achievement of security of supply at a fair price for all Canadians. If this in fact were accomplished we could employ many more Canadians, many of whom are left in the ranks of the unemployed as a result of the failing auto industry and the timber industry in many parts of the west, to say nothing of those people who are being driven off the farms.

Petroleum product costs have been raised to such a high level that farmers are now receiving in some cases less for their products than it costs to produce them. As a result we are putting them in the ranks of the unemployed as well. I think this area of energy supply must be developed.

Members of the Liberal party have talked in this House about a made-in-Canada price. What they refer to is not really a made-in-Canada price. What has been talked about in this House by members of the Liberal government is a subsidy price, a price at which we sell our products in the west with no real recognition by the federal government of fairness. We import petroleum products in the east, therefore subsidizing the cost. This is not a made-in-Canada price, it is a subsidized cost to those in the east, and a rip-off price to many of those people in the west.

For example, in Saskatchewan we could create many more jobs and virtually have an unemployment rate of zero, if only the federal government would look at a true made-in-Canada price. This could be achieved by putting in a heavy crude upgrading station somewhere in northwestern Saskatchewan. This is something I have worked on with the Northwest Economic Development Council and the Saskatchewan Oil and Gas Corporation. We have attempted to produce a program whereby we could process heavy crude in northwest Saskatchewan.

Perhaps many members of this House do not realize that at the present time western Canada has to export heavy crude oil, particularly in Saskatchewan, because there is no upgrading station there. This heavy crude crosses the border into the United States where it is processed and brought up to a grade we can use. As a result, the government of Saskatchewan has to pay an export tax of \$500 million per year to the federal government. If this upgrading station were put into place in northwestern Saskatchewan we would not have to export this heavy crude. It could be processed in northwestern Saskatchewan, creating many more jobs in that area, virtually eliminat-

ing unemployment, or maintaining unemployment at a rate below 4 per cent.

Unemployment is very low now in Saskatchewan because of the sound management of Premier Allan Blakeney and the NDP in that province. With unemployment remaining below 4 per cent this would help the rest of Canada. I do not think employers and employees would then mind absorbing the total cost of benefits to the unemployed because they would be very low.

We could create jobs in this country by doing something the NDP advocated during the recent election campaign. We said a pipeline should be built from western Canada to eastern Canada, at least to Quebec City where refining facilities already exist. There are pumping facilities in place there as a result of the importation of petroleum products. This was talked about in the throne speech, but where is the action? This would also create many jobs, not only in Saskatchewan, Alberta and western Canada, but for people throughout Canada. This could be done by building the pipeline in all those provinces it would cross, as well as in the area of the distribution in eastern Canada of the oil and gas now being produced in western Canada.

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We would begin to establish a made-in-Canada price when we stop Alberta from exporting its trillions of cubic feet of natural gas to the United States, which could be used by Canadians first. Let us take an inventory of our energy supplies, whether it be nuclear power, hydro power or power produced by petroleum products, such as natural gas or heavy crude, and see what we have. We must look to our own needs first, and export what we have left over. Such a move would create jobs and help to keep the rate of unemployment down, and it would help to replace the jobs which are rapidly leaving because of the auto industry closing down.

As was outlined in the throne speech, we should be moving more homes to natural gas heating. Such a conversion in itself would create jobs. Most important, we must look at the role that Petro-Canada should play in the petroleum industry of this country. The government stated in the throne speech under the second item that it wanted to achieve energy supply at a fair cost to all Canadians and that Petro-Canada should be maintained and expanded as a Crown corporation.

The New Democratic Party agrees with the government on its approach to Petro-Canada. We, in fact, forced the Liberal government in 1972 to establish Petro-Canada. We agree with the Liberal government that Petro-Canada should be expanded and that it should be retained as a Crown corporation. However, the government is not moving totally in the right direction with regard to Petro-Canada. The government said in the throne speech that Canada should gain 50 per cent ownership of the petroleum industry by the year 1990. This is not enough now, nor was it enough in the past. It is better than it was, but it is not good enough.

For example, in 1978 we owned 1 per cent of the petroleum refining industry in Canada. When you only own 1 per cent of