

Alleged Failure of Employment Policies

for him that this is precisely the issue about which I was talking. You have to choose between inflation on the one hand and stable prices and unemployment on the other. I admit that if you are to have an economy geared to full employment there will be some inflation.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Order, please.

Mr. Broadbent: My question is: Would the hon. member not agree that it is better to have some inflation and 1½ per cent unemployment than an economy that is geared to beat inflation and 6 per cent to 10 per cent unemployed?

Mr. Caccia: The answer cannot be as short as the question, but it would seem to me the question is based on the assumption that one policy excludes the other and that therefore we have a choice between one or the other. I do not believe it is a choice between black and white many other factors have to be taken into consideration.

[Translation]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, while we are wondering whether it is better to have inflation when there are fewer unemployed, or to have inflation with more unemployment, the unemployed are still without work.

Meanwhile, economic conditions are unchanged. As we talk, entire families are deprived of the necessary commodities, not only in a given region but throughout Canada.

Earlier, I heard the member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Ricard) relate facts such as, for example, the aggressivity of Liberal members against certain ministers when the Progressive Conservative party was in office in Ottawa about the number of unemployed in Canada. Indeed, there were nearly 1 million people out of work in 1961-62 under a Progressive Conservative administration. It is true that at that time the former ministers or members were putting questions to the ministers and defying them to find jobs and pass legislation that would ensure full employment in Canada.

Today these same Liberals are in power. The Progressive Conservative members now question the Liberals who have become Cabinet members. They blame the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Marchand), the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), all

[Mr. Broadbent.]

the ministers, and say: There are as many unemployed in the country as there were under our administration. Problems are as numerous. This shows therefore that the two parties are exactly alike. The hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe proved it a short while ago when he stated that the government had problems in 1961. It is just as true that the government has problems in 1970. These two governments do not want to solve their problems. They do not want to do anything against a system which is responsible for the situation. Within that system nothing would be changed even if the New Democratic Party came into power. Even if the Créditistes were in power, we would be in the same dead-lock.

Some think of financing production instead of consumption. People are told to produce more, but they are also told to tighten their belts.

To increase the standard of living it is necessary to increase productivity and in a trice the wheat producers are told: We will pay you if you do not produce wheat. As far as the Quebec milk producers are concerned, they are told: we will punish you if you produce too much milk. The corn producers in Ontario are told the same thing.

And in the face of such penalties and such stagnation, our friends from the New Democratic party are presenting a motion. I forgive them however for failing to supply me with a French text, as my N.D.P. friends are not used to the French language. The hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis) could very well have translated it as she knows French very well, but it seems that her colleague did not ask her to do it.

But here is the wording of the English motion, since English is one of the official languages in Canada.

[English]

That this House condemns the government (a) for its failure to provide a program of full employment, (b) for its discriminatory and ineffective manpower policies, and (c) for its destructive labour relations with its own employees.

• (3:10 p.m.)

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, I will deal with part (a) since I am not so much concerned about part (b) which says:

—ineffective manpower policies—

Part (b) is linked to the first. But the first part says: The government's failure to estab-