

Tabling of Documents

Mr. Shields: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member for St. John's East (Mr. Harris) pointed out that Denmark, Norway and Sweden only have 2 per cent unemployment.

Ms. Mitchell: Good social democrats.

Mr. Shields: I am glad the Hon. Member said that. Why do they not go on to explain that Denmark, Norway and Sweden have conscription? Denmark and Norway are members of NATO. We know the position of the socialist party in Canada as far as NATO is concerned. Are they advocating conscription for all our young people in Canada, because that would certainly bring full employment or at least reduce unemployment to 2 per cent?

Mr. Keeper: Mr. Speaker, I am delighted that the Hon. Member was able to rise in the House and ask a question of New Democrats without mentioning Shirley Carr or Bob White.

Mr. Shields: We knew that you would.

Mr. Keeper: Every time a New Democratic stands in the House the Hon. Member asks: Where is Shirley?

The Hon. Member asks why we do not promote conscription if we want full employment—

Mr. Shields: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I would like my question answered and not repeated erroneously. I asked if that socialist party advocated conscription as it is in Denmark, Norway and Sweden. I am not advocating it. I am asking if they do.

Mr. Keeper: I am pleased that my hon. colleague is getting such good practice asking questions and supplementary questions because he will soon be back in the opposition benches and the Conservatives will need those skills.

Mr. Shields: Answer the question.

Mr. Keeper: I am delighted that the Hon. Member has acted like a Member of the Opposition and treating us as if we are in government. I welcome that eventuality and that challenge. Clearly, this is a further elaboration of the Conservative tactic to distort and misrepresent the New Democratic Party position. Certainly conscription has not been the policy of this Party. We have no intention of advocating that policy. We have taken the stand that we will withdraw from NATO. We have been consistent with that policy and we take that stand because we are concerned about the survival of this planet.

We want people to know that it is important to recognize that while there are regional and global differences, we also share a common humanity. The survival of the planet must be a top priority.

My hon. friend has made an error in reasoning. He believes that there is only one set of policies to follow in order to achieve the objective of full employment. He suggests that we

must use the policies of another country to achieve the same objective of full employment. That is not the case. We are Canadians. We will draft a set of Canadian policies to achieve full employment. We will draft a Canadian socialism. We are concerned about meeting basic human needs and ensuring that people have a right to work and contribute to society. We intend to implement a comprehensive set of policies to provide for full employment, and they will be Canadian policies.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions among the Parties and I wonder if I might have unanimous consent of the House to revert to tabling of documents in order to table a document on behalf of the Minister of National Health and Welfare

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

HEALTH AND WELFARE

TABLING OF DOCUMENT "BUILDING BENEFITS FOR
HOMEMAKERS"

Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of State and Minister of State (Treasury Board)): Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to table on behalf of the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Epp) a document entitled Building Benefits for Homemakers, in both official languages.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT, 1971

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Bouchard that Bill C-90, an Act to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971, be read the second time and referred to a legislative committee.

Mr. Friesen: Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions with the Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Lachine East (Mr. Allmand) and the Member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Rodriguez). I think you will find that there is agreement to pass this Bill in all stages before the lunch break.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the House ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: Question.