Labour Adjustment Benefits

At some point in the future we will reserve that home market for Canadian workers and Canadian business. We will not let every Tom, Dick and Harry in the world dump their products on the Canadian market and put Canadians out of work. We are capable of making our own automobiles, trucks and tractors in this country. We do not have to leave our markets open to the likes of those in Russia, Korea and elsewhere to use our home market for their dumping ground. Tell me, can the Russians buy a Lada for \$4,500 in Moscow? I say they cannot. The reason is that they do not sell them that cheap over there, but they will dump them in our country at that price. Can you buy those Jap cars in Tokyo for the kind of money you have to pay in Mississauga?

• (2110)

Mr. Evans: What cars?

Mr. Blenkarn: You heard me. The parliamentary secretary does not like the words "Jap cars". I am going to tell him they are Jap cars.

Mr. Evans: No, I don't like it.

Mr. Blenkarn: That is too bad. My people want jobs. They want the right to work and build for this country, and they do not want our country to wind up being the dumping ground for everybody's surplus product and everybody's industrial activities. But that is the attitude of the parliamentary secretary. He would want us to be the dumping ground of the world.

Mr. Evans: I don't like racial slurs.

Mr. Blenkarn: Racial be damned. I will tell the parliamentary secretary what this is. It is a Canadian slur. Canadians want jobs. They are not interested in being slurred by people who are prepared to let Canada be used as a dumping ground, as this government is prepared to let it be used.

Mr. Regan: Thank God Canadians are not like you.

Mr. Blenkarn: If the minister wants to run again in Halifax, we will see what he can do. We will see what all those fellows opposite can do again. They have made this country a deindustrialized country. They have taken job opportunities away from Canadians. They have allowed such industries as SKF Industries to close and ship its ball bearing machinery to other parts of the world, and allowed that product to be dumped in Canada because it cannot now be produced in Canada. Their policy is to deindustrialize and make people industrially redundant and pay them 60 cents on the dollar of their insurable earnings. This policy has to stop. We must have a Canada first industrial policy. We must have a budget which provides for that and which allows Canadians to invest in Canada and write off their interest costs. We must allow people to borrow to make investments. We must allow Canadians to build in this country. We cannot go on any longer with a policy which says that certain industries are no longer effective when there are still Canadians about who can make them so. We cannot allow decisions like this to be made in the ivory towers around

here. I am sure the budget of November 12 was prepared in one of those ivory towers.

I want to speak for a moment or two about some of the causes of this bill. Our dollar is selling today for something in excess of 83 cents American in the world market. It is at that value simply because the government is artificially keeping it there.

The financial policies of this government have been driving Canadian capital from the country. In order to keep our dollar's value relatively close to that of the American dollar, this government has been raising interest rates to attract "hot" money. The consequence of this is that many of our exports are no longer competitive in Europe. This is true particularly of our industrial exports. The Europeans have refused to follow the crazy interest rate policies of the United States. We have not followed them; we have kept ahead of them. The consequence is that we have lost a great deal of our export market in the European common market. At the same time, we have made imports much cheaper in this country than they need to be. That policy itself is part of the deindustrialization policy of this government.

It is imperative to us that we change our domestic policies and our trade policies, that we let our dollar truly float, and that we encourage people in a real way to export from Canada and truly make sure that those who dump their products on the Canadian market are handled in the same manner as Canadian exporters would be dealt with if they were to try to dump their products on the American market. They would suddenly be frozen out by regulation, if by nothing else. We should treat importers into this country in the same way the Japanese treat importers into their country. Those importers should face the same scrutiny vis-à-vis the viability of their home production as we face when we go into their country. Unless we are prepared to have a trade policy which recognizes Canadians first, then, as this bill says, we will continue to have the obligation to categorize industries and to certify industries as eligible for adjustment. These industries will be generally redundant because of import competition and, under Clause 3 of the bill, people from those industries are the ones who can be certified. Clause 9 of the bill says:

Any employee who has been laid off may apply, directly or through an employer, trade union . . . for certification as being eligible to apply—

"Certification to be eligible".

Mr. McDermid: He is going to be certifiable.

Mr. Blenkarn: My colleague, the hon. member for Brampton-Georgetown (Mr. McDermid), says "He is going to be certifiable". We used to certify lunatics. I suppose now we certify redundant employees. That is what this bill says; we are going to certify people. I think it is about time we stopped certifying people and started looking at the employment opportunities and the resources that are available in Canada. It is time we started looking on the bright side of things and organized our manpower department to retrain people and reorganize people into new jobs. Clearly, in a changing world people will have to move from job to job. We recognize that