

HEALTH CARE

Mr. Lee Clark (Brandon—Souris): Madam Speaker, virtually all Canadians are understandably proud of medicare and the quality of health care which it provides on a universal basis.

Consequently, we are shocked and dismayed when American politicians, as they do on occasion, criticize medicare for what they claim to be its shortcomings.

You can imagine how surprised and angered Canadians would be, therefore, if they had had the opportunity to read the February 27, 1992 edition of *The Brandon Sun* and to discover that a Canadian politician speaking in Neepawa, Manitoba, in fact the leader of the Reform Party, had promised to abolish medicare as a universal program.

Perhaps the leader of the Reform Party who is the son of a Social Credit premier undoubtedly enjoyed a privileged upbringing and does not understand the importance of medicare to ordinary Canadians of all ages and particularly to seniors.

Perhaps he does not understand, therefore, that Canadians will not permit any politician or any party, including those whose roots are in the distant past to destroy medicare as we know it.

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THE SENATE

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface): Madam Speaker, I was extremely disappointed that neither the Conservative Party nor the New Democratic Party members of the Special Joint Committee on a Renewed Canada, better known as the Beaudoin-Dobbie committee of which I was a member, would support the Liberal Party's request to have a strong and effective Senate by ensuring that the Senate's decisions could not be overridden or could not easily be overridden by the House of Commons. If you are going to reform the Senate, surely it must among other things, be effective.

The Liberal Party members registered their dissent on this point on page 55 of the committee report which reads:

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"Liberal members—disagree with the majority recommendation concerning the powers of the Senate because of the proposed override of a Senate veto of legislation. Such an override, and it was a simple override, will undermine the effectiveness of the Senate—Therefore, the Liberal members of the committee recommend that a reformed Senate be granted an absolute veto on all bills, except for appropriation and budget bills."

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STATUS OF WOMEN

Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East): Madam Speaker, International Women's Week is over but double discrimination continues against women of colour and immigrant women.

Domestic workers are locked into live-in jobs where they can be exploited and new policies will exclude many women of colour from coming to Canada as domestics.

Lack of professional accreditation forces many immigrant women to remain in low-paying jobs.

The Tory budget also has added another layer of hardship for these women. The \$1 million cut to Canada Jobs Strategy training represents a 35 per cent cut to immigrant women who also lack child care.

Payments owing for pay equity are denied women public servants.

The Court Challenges Program which gave women of colour a chance to achieve equality rights through our courts is cancelled.

The legislated Race Relations Foundation to fight racism is indefinitely postponed.

This government has lost all respect for the rights of minorities, and especially for women of colour who are doubly jeopardized.

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HALTON—PEEL SURVEY

Mr. Garth Turner (Halton—Peel): Madam Speaker, my constituents continue to offer me some excellent advice and comment.

Ron Fotheringham of Bolton, Ontario writes: "We should enact a simple vocabulary change. We should remove the word 'government' from our vocabulary and substitute the word 'taxpayer' in some cases 'taxpayers representatives'. It changes all our headlines and makes one re-think concepts like, 'The federal government today contributed X-million dollars to the purchase of de