

Unemployment Insurance Act

CUPE is not happy with it in some areas. I do not care whether CUPE is happy or unhappy with it.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Leggatt: I happen to think that in a full employment economy and full employment society everybody works, including CUPE.

Mr. Crosbie: Now you are in the "soupie".

An hon. Member: What about the CLC?

Mr. Leggatt: Mr. Speaker, I know my friends in that very effective and active union CUPE, will understand that those were somewhat facetious remarks. The members of CUPE are second to none, I think, in terms of their own working capacity in this country.

Let us go back to the position of the provinces which my colleague, the hon. member for Provencher, raised in his initial remarks, which were to the effect that there has been provincial opposition to these changes and that it is merited.

The province of British Columbia estimates that from \$35 to \$40 million will be spent in addition to the present welfare costs when these changes to the Unemployment Insurance Act go through. What is happening, in fact, is that we are not tightening up on unemployment insurance; we are just taking people off one form of social insurance and placing them on another form of social insurance. I see the parliamentary secretary shaking his head, and I would be very pleased if he were to rise in his place and correct me.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member but I must inform him that his allotted time has expired.

Mr. Epp: Mr. Speaker, would the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Leggatt) permit a question?

Mr. Leggatt: Yes.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order, please. It would need the unanimous consent of the House since the hon. member for New Westminster has exhausted his time. Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

An hon. Member: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): The hon. member for Provencher.

Mr. Epp: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I shall be brief. I should like to ask the hon. member for New Westminster—

Mr. Landers: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, there was not unanimous consent.

[Mr. Leggatt.]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order, please. There was not unanimous consent. The hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie).

Mr. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, it is a very unfortunate time to speak in the House tonight because my brains have been scrambled—

An hon. Member: Again?

Mr. Crosbie: —by the unalterable trash we have just listened to from the member for New Westminster (Mr. Leggatt).

These gentlemen to my left are experts in dividing up what somebody else creates. If we had ever heard of them creating something, expanding our gross national product, creating some more wealth for the people of Canada to enjoy, I would be the first to congratulate them. They sit on our left and all we hear are motions under Standing Order 43, and questions, and "increase this", "expand that", "pay more here", "pay more there", but never a word about how the people of Canada are going to meet this—the taxpayers of Canada, the people out there working, the people who are creating wealth.

Mr. Nystrom: Compare Newfoundland to Saskatchewan.

Mr. Crosbie: The crowd to my left reminds me of Ernest Hemingway's book, "The Sun also Rises", only in their case the dough never rises. There is never any expansion in the gross national product with this crowd. They just want to divide up what the rest of us have created.

Mr. Nystrom: Look at Saskatchewan.

Mr. Crosbie: Did Saskatchewan originate the potash mines? No. They nationalized them and took them over from somebody else.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Crosbie: I do not want to be too severe with them tonight, Mr. Speaker, because they are a forlorn group of gypsies. Anyone who looks at them impartially tonight will see that they are a small scattered remnant that, after the next election, will not even be a rim. They have had it. They are the party of nicely decent perceptions. They are the only ones who have those nice, decent perceptions. They are the only ones whose hearts bleed when anybody is unfortunate, that little group to my left. They are squawking and quawking and croaking and quacking away while the rest of us cruel, heartless beasts, go on running the country without them. We are going to go on without them for the next hundred years.

I want to refer to something that the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Cullen) said when he opened the debate in this House on November 9. I refer to *Hansard* for November 9. The minister made a savage attack on the gentleman who has just been appointed as chairman of Air Canada. He made a savage attack on the government's proposals and records since 1971, because this whole trouble started in 1971, led by the Hon. Bryce Mackasey who at that