

man, Joe Shannon, who was appointed by the former Liberal Government. However, that is not the major feature. This profit was made possible by the work, sweat, problems and difficulties of the miners on Cape Breton Island rather than through any action of this pompous Minister of the Government. For him to take any credit for what happened in the Cape Breton Development Corporation is completely and utterly insulting to the people of Cape Breton.

Not only is he taking credit for something that the people managed to do for themselves despite the adversities of industrial Cape Breton, but his good news did not relate to that which he had promised the people of industrial Cape Breton. On January 25, 1985, an Opposition day sponsored by the Member for Essex-Windsor (Mr. Langdon), he said that positive announcements would be coming very soon with respect to that company, referring to the Cape Breton Development Corporation. At that time he did not know that there would be a profit for the Cape Breton Development Corporation, as minimal as that good news would be for the people who are unemployed in Cape Breton. In that respect he has not brought forward any good news. He has not kept his promise to the people of Cape Breton to do something about the plight of that area of our country.

What is happening? We must be concerned, Mr. Speaker, because as I have said, the unemployment rate is officially 29.5 per cent and unofficially over 40 per cent. The people of Glace Bay would be so pleased to hear that he did so much for them by creating this profit. They have an unemployment rate of 50 per cent in that town. The two industries, No. 26 Colliery and the Highland Fishery in Glace Bay, were destroyed by fire in the last 14 months. They would be pleased to hear the good news. They have been hanging on to the hope there will be something forthcoming to salvage not only the economy of Glace Bay but the whole industrial area of Cape Breton. They will be very impressed by the news of the Minister and the hypocrisy of what has been said in the House by the Government.

● (1440)

Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, recently had a special benefit concert on the CBC. A recent article in a periodical told of the hope and good spirits of the people of Glace Bay and their generosity in donating to charitable campaigns, such as to the people of Ethiopia. They have been doublecrossed by the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion (Mr. Stevens).

The people of Sydney Mines are also without an industry. That city of 10,000 people has no industry and nothing is being planned by the Government. It is a disgrace that the Government would treat the problems of Canadians in such a cavalier and pompous fashion.

The Minister has talked about Devco and that it will turn it around. Devco did not turn it around this morning when Haak Engineering, a company that was formed by the industrial development division of Devco, lost their contract with the Cape Breton Development Corporation to a company in the United Kingdom. It had to lay off all but two of its employees

Supply

in Cape Breton Island. It is only more bad news for the industrial area of Cape Breton.

The Minister talks about meetings. It is time to stop meeting and start to take action. All that the Minister has done is set up two studies, but what will this do for those people who come to see me? For example, there is a young couple who have lost their home because it does not have any heat or water. They have two children and are living with the wife's parents. Her father is bedridden and the six members of that family must live on the grandfather's pension. While this takes place, the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion holds meetings and sets up committees to conduct studies. He does not even trust his own bureaucrats.

There are professionals in his Department who have studied industrial Cape Breton. He has officials in the directorate under the Director General but nothing is being done. He does not trust them. The Minister operates in a vacuum and the problems of regional development in Atlantic Canada are going unanswered. The Government will have to correct that situation and the Minister will have to be held accountable.

The Minister says that this is not the time for doom and gloom. What does he expect from people in Atlantic Canada when the unemployment rate has gone up to 29.5 per cent? The Minister has compared the unemployment rate in Atlantic Canada to that in New England. He said that the unemployment rate in Atlantic Canada has gone down and it has gone up in New England by 50 per cent. When the Tory Government was elected on September 4, the official unemployment rate in industrial Cape Breton was 19 per cent. As of the end of March it was 29.5 per cent. That is an increase of over 50 per cent since the Government has been in power. The Government cannot tell Canadians that it is doing something for Atlantic Canada and for the unemployed in this country and that it is acting on the concept of regional development.

The Government has done nothing positive in industrial Cape Breton. What has it done? It cancelled the building of a decentralized office which would have created 100 construction jobs. It has taken away an income security office which was to be decentralized from Halifax. That would have created 85 jobs in downtown Sydney. Not only would it help in job creation, it would have had a spin-off effect that would have enhanced the downtown area of Sydney. The Minister and his friend, Premier Buchanan of Nova Scotia, have managed to sabotage a \$12 million subsidiary agreement for downtown Sydney.

The former Liberal Government approved \$8 million not only at Cabinet but through Treasury Board. Where is that money at a time when people in industrial Cape Breton are unemployed and going without hope because of the broken promises of the Minister?

The North Sydney wharf has been cancelled. Half of phase three and phase four of the expansion of the coast guard college have been cancelled. The wash plant at the Prince Mine at Point Aconi has been cancelled. That is what the Government has done for industrial Cape Breton. Everything the Government has done is negative. The Government will