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been courting Quebecers and is trying again to get Quebec separatists on his side. The Member for Etobicoke-Centre (Mr. Wilson) stated recently that an alliance should be made between Quebec Nationalists and the Conservatives, an explosive mixture to say the least.

Finally, the Member for Rosedale (Mr. Crombie) who seems to be more candid than his opponents, stated recently that the Progressive Conservative Party has tricked Quebecers at the last constitutional talks, that the so-called overture to Quebec was made only to embarrass the Liberals, and that the real reason did not go beyond the desire to score some political points.

These gentlemen have proved that they are better at bringing about disunity in a party than at governing the country.

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[English]

AGRICULTURE

INCREASE IN NUMBER OF FARM BANKRUPTCIES

Mr. Blaine A. Thacker (Lethbridge-Foothills): Madam Speaker, the current Liberal depression continues to claim its toll in rural Canada in the form of staggering farm bankruptcies and plummeting farm income. Farm bankruptcies increased in 1982 by some 160 per cent compared with 1980. Total net farm income fell more than 19 per cent in 1982 to about \$3.8 billion and is expected to drop below \$3.7 billion in 1983.

Canadian farmers, despite tough economic times and bureaucratic obstacles, continued to contribute greatly to our economy. During the 1980s, agriculture generated 40 per cent of the nation's gross national product. Today one farmer produces enough to feed 67 persons as compared with only 11 in 1940. Surely such performance by this efficient sector deserves greater consideration on the part of this Parliament.

Instead, the Liberal Government continues to attack our farming community and fails to come up with policies which would ease their plight. The Liberal policy makers, tangled in the vicious circle of high deficits and spending, ignore the consequences of capital gains taxes imposed on farm land, high inflation rates and, most important, fuel taxes. We hear Government officials bragging about the low cost of Canadian food, some 17 per cent compared with 30 per cent spent by West Europeans.

Madam Speaker: Order.

[Translation]

EMPLOYMENT

GOVERNMENT'S DUTY TO ASSUME ITS RESPONSIBILITIES

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver-Kingsway): Madam Speaker, unemployment has reached unprecedented proportions in Quebec, especially among young people. However, the Federal Government has failed to propose any employment strategy to cope with this social disaster. The Federal Government and the Government of Quebec must stop their useless bickering. Their sole priority should be to provide employment for 500,000 unemployed workers and 600,000 welfare recipients in Quebec. This week, thousands of Quebecers will be taking part in a great march to urge both governments to act according to the mandate they were given by the people who elected them. The New Democratic Party, with the Conference of Bishops, the unions and various social organizations, supports the objectives of the organizers of this demonstration of hope. Young people, women, union and non-union workers must be given decent living and working conditions.

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● (1410)

[English]

HEALTH

SMOKING IN PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ROOMS

Mr. Stanley Hudecki (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Defence): Madam Speaker, recent clinical studies have dramatically illustrated the serious health effect of second-hand smoke, otherwise known as passive smoking.

Non-smokers exposed to a chronically smoky environment have been found to have respiratory impairment equivalent to that of smokers who inhale up to ten cigarettes a day.

Patients with heart disease manifested by chest pain, angina pectoris, showed increased risks of attacks by 22 per cent as judged by exercise tolerance after exposure to passive smoke in a well ventilated room, and by 38 per cent when exposed to passive smoke in an unventilated room.

Lung cancer mortality rates in non-smoking married women were 5.6 per 1,000 for wives of non-smokers, 9.3 per 1,000 for wives of light smokers, and 13.1 per 1,000 for wives of heavy smokers of 20 cigarettes per day or more.

These studies should convince us in the political field to prevail through you, Madam Speaker, to ask the Standing Committee on Management and Members' Services to regulate smoking in parliamentary committee rooms in order to improve the quality of our indoor air and thereby set an