

*Adjournment Motion*

Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap (Mr. Riis). I know he was back home in his constituency in Kamloops touring the riding this past weekend at a very critical time in the history of British Columbia, consulting with people like Howard McDermid, Kenna Cartwright and Peter Ralston. Would my colleague elaborate a little bit on what some of the major concerns were of the people in his community as he travelled around the community, particularly focusing on the failures of the Government of British Columbia to address those concerns at this critical time in B.C. history?

**Mr. Riis:** Mr. Speaker, I will be pleased to respond to the thoughtful question put forward by my colleague. When speaking with these individuals, including a fine, upstanding contributing citizen such as Gordon Priestman, I found that their concerns primarily are that the provincial Government, in co-operation at times with the federal Government, has failed to address some of the serious problems facing the people of central British Columbia. I am thinking of access to educational and training opportunities. The biases that are built into the system make it very difficult if not actually prohibit many, many people from average income or less than average income families to pursue educational and training opportunities. Then there is the lack of commitment to assist the agricultural sector, the small struggling farmer or rancher. There is simply nothing there to give them the courage and support to go on. One could easily add to that the small business and small manufacturer who has to compete with the giants in a very unjust and unfair system.

Perhaps the greatest concern is the concern that these individuals hold about the lack of support for the long-term development of our forest resource. It is the forest resource in central British Columbia that holds the long-term promise, the long-term economic and job-creation hope. Yet provincial and federal Governments have for too long let us down in maintaining that resource so that we could be guaranteed a sustained yield of production.

Serious cuts have been incurred by the Social Credit Government which have cut back on services people require. I know that this is a very general attempt at a response to my hon. friend, but in economic and social matters a great deal should be done and must be done by a Government that puts people first, not corporations first.

**Mr. Nunziata:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap (Mr. Riis) for his comments this afternoon. Over the last two years I have grown to admire the Hon. Member. It is of some regret to me that he is not a member of our caucus. Perhaps the future might bring us together as colleagues in the same Liberal caucus.

The Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap is also a neighbour of sorts. I am originally from Revelstoke. Kamloops is not far from the good Town of Revelstoke. I just want to bring to the attention of the House that that part of the country seems to produce good parliamentarians.

**Mr. Robinson:** But mistakes are made every now and then.

**Mr. Nunziata:** I want to ask the Hon. Member about the so-called four pillars in the Throne Speech. The speech itself is based on what the Prime Minister loves to term the four pillars: national reconciliation, economic renewal, social justice and constructive internationalism. I know that the Hon. Member agrees with me when I say that we have heard it all before. I would like the Hon. Member to give me and this House a western perspective with respect to the pillar known as national reconciliation. As he knows, not long ago a Conservative Premier started talking about western separatism. I would like the Hon. Member to comment about that particular pillar and whether he believes, from his perspective in western Canada, that there has been national reconciliation over the last two years.

**Mr. Riis:** Mr. Speaker, I have two things to say in response to my thoughtful friend. One is that just the other day the Prime Minister was visiting western Canada. When a number of Gainers employees who are struggling for their very economic existence were attempting to make a point with the Prime Minister, he called them separatists. That did not go down well in western Canada. I think that the view reflected by the Prime Minister in terms of his unthoughtful nature was best reflected in statements uttered by the Premier of British Columbia and the Premier of Alberta over the last few weeks that in a sense the present Conservative Government has abandoned western Canada. In terms of any national coming together of east and west, I am afraid that the policies of the present Government have widened that gulf. So now the feelings of alienation, in fact even "separatism" as expressed by our Prime Minister, have crept back into the vocabulary of many western Canadians.

• (1700)

## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 66, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the Hon. Member for York East (Mr. Redway)—Energy—Price of gasoline; the Hon. Member for Saint-Michel—Ahuntsic (Mrs. Killens)—Pharmaceutical Products—Recommendation of the Eastman Commission—government position. (b) Price of new drugs—government position; and the Hon. Member for Burnaby (Mr. Robinson)—Penitentiaries—Reasons for locating prison in Manicouagan. (b) Reasons of Prime Minister for choosing his own riding.