

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, if I heard the Hon. Member correctly, toward the end of his speech I either heard some brave new words or some arrant nonsense. I thought I heard the Member say that we should seek to depoliticize the concept of war. I wonder whether he has thought about what that means, or did he mean that we should depoliticize the concept of peace? I am not sure what he had in mind. It is really a strange collection of thoughts. I do not think wars are fought for anything but political reasons.

Mr. Evans: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member has totally misinterpreted or misunderstood what I said. In fact it was just the opposite. I said that we had to repoliticize because, as I said in my speech, the advent of machines of war have removed the political element from war in the sense of politics being the resolution of problems between human beings. With the mechanization of war, the resolution of problems does not come down to a face to face issue of resolving the difficulties. It comes down simply to throwing massive elements of destruction back and forth between groups of people who know nothing about each other. That is what I meant, that it had been depoliticized by machine elements of war over the years to the ultimate extreme where we now have the capability of throwing one piece of equipment and destroying millions of people in a megasecond. That is total depoliticization of the concept of conflict resolution. We have to repoliticize it so that we start to resolve these conflicts by human interaction and by reason rather than through the application of mechanical means of destruction and death.

Mr. Skelly: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I appreciated the comments of the Hon. Member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Evans). He almost dealt with my third question, which I think is vitally important. I wonder whether unanimous consent might be given to allow him one more minute in which to finish his answer on Central America.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Parliamentary Secretary has another minute and a half in which to respond, if he so pleases.

Mr. Evans: Mr. Speaker, I will be very honest and frank with the Hon. Member for Comox-Powell River (Mr. Skelly). I am not as fully apprised of the Government's activities and positions in various elements of Central America as perhaps I would like to be or as perhaps he is. It certainly seems to me, from my understanding of discussions I have had with the Minister for External Relations (Mr. Pepin) and the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacEachen), that our position as a Government is to try to reduce the tensions, to not provide arms to combatants in those countries, and to put that position forward to the United States and others who are supplying weapons to those combatants. Certainly from my understanding that is the approach the Government has put forward. Perhaps we could be doing more. Certainly I would very much appreciate hearing debate, as I have in the past, on what we could do in Central America.

I know the Hon. Member for Saskatoon East (Mr. Ogle) has a great deal of experience in that area. I have enjoyed and

appreciated some of his comments about his travels. Also I know that an all-Party committee of three Members of the House went down there to look at the situation during our last recess. I admit that my education has to be greatly enhanced in that area, but my understanding of Government policy is that it is not as inconsistent with the Hon. Member's desires as perhaps his question would have led some Members of the House to believe.

● (1640)

Mr. Gerry St. Germain (Mission-Port Moody): Mr. Speaker, as this is my maiden speech, it is a great honour to rise in the House today and respond to the Speech from the Throne. Just over four months ago, I had the privilege of being led into the House by my colleague, the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Mulroney). That day is one I will never forget.

In representing Mission-Port Moody, I follow in the steps of a fine man, a conscientious, hard-working Member of Parliament. His efforts and his dedication to the people of Mission-Port Moody and Canada represent to me a great challenge and a real incentive to work hard. Mark Rose and I certainly do not share the same political philosophy, but we do share the same concerns, concern over the massive and devastating unemployment in Mission-Port Moody and the rest of Canada, and concern over the neglect our area has suffered in recent years.

I want to tell you about my riding of Mission-Port Moody, Mr. Speaker, so that all Members of the House can understand not only the plight of our area but the tremendous potential that it has as well.

My riding of Mission-Port Moody is a beautiful part of the British Columbia lower mainland on the north shore of the Fraser River. Most of the 120,000 people in my riding live in communities along the Fraser River running from Port Moody, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Pitt Meadows, Maple Ridge, Whonnock, Ruskin, Mission, Deroche, right out to Harrison Mills.

From the suburban residential area of Port Coquitlam to the famed Sasquatch-inhabited forests of Harrison Valley, the people of Mission-Port Moody share the same patriotism for their nation and the same hopes and dreams for their families as the rest of Canadians. Our area is blessed with the natural beauty and bountiful resources that British Columbia is so well known for, but we are also plagued with unemployment and hardship that is gripping our nation. Unemployment is the single greatest issue concerning the people of Mission-Port Moody. It was that issue that dominated the by-election campaign following which I was elected. It is this issue that is in the mind of every citizen in my riding today.

Hopes have been dashed and dreams have been stifled because of unemployment. Discontent is growing and anger is in the feeling and in the hearts of my constituents. They are angry, not at me. They are angry at the Government opposite because they know that Government intervention, economic mismanagement and corrupt neglect have led to our current difficulties. However, their anger has fired their resolve to