

*Supply—Labour*

attempting to develop legislation in this field, in concert with provincial governments. There should be a drive on the part of the women's bureau and the Department of Labour, working with employees and organized workers, to see what can be done in respect of part time or half day work for women. It is not good enough to put women on shift work because it may be inconvenient for women to do so, and also look after their home-making duties.

Home duties should be given priority, and I think a study ought to be made by the women's bureau to see which part of the day is more convenient for women to work outside and which to keep up with their duties at home. It might well be found that the day could be divided into two parts. Women could use one part for home duties and work around the home, and the other part could be used for work in industry.

It is my suggestion that we should also explore at the federal level a measure for maternity leave. This is in line with the recommendation of the International Labour Organization. Surely we should define a maternity leave measure in light of the I.L.O. provisions. British Columbia and the province of New Brunswick are the only provinces in Canada which have maternity leave legislation in actual operation at this time. Other provinces have such legislation on their books, but as yet the regulations have not been promulgated.

I cannot go into this matter in any detail tonight, but my colleague, the hon. member for Moose Jaw, made the point that the Department of Labour ought to work more closely with the department of manpower. There could be no greater necessity in this regard than in the field of training for women. Married women who cannot now qualify for manpower training ought to be included and treated on a fair basis.

● (9:00 p.m.)

Let me refer to another point which ought to be considered by the women's bureau. A great many women are concerned in this matter because not only do they have the burden of bringing up families and making homes, but on them devolves the care of elderly parents or elderly relatives. Some attempt ought to be made to see whether a visiting homemaker service under the aegis of the women's bureau could be provided to help out in these circumstances. I know I am suggesting very heavy and new duties for the women's bureau, but I believe they are

important, and that if the women's bureau is to be of value to women workers it should enlarge its responsibilities to take in these fields. If the minister can look at the women's bureau as a means of legislating or operating so that women workers can have a chance of equality with men workers, I think this will result after some years in cutting out the women's bureau; but the women's bureau will be serving a very useful purpose between now and the time it destroys its reason for existence.

I shall touch on one other question, and I shall not take too long to do so. However I think it should be raised. We in Canada have been greatly disturbed and upset this fall in connection with the boycott of table grapes from California. I want to say a few words about this subject tonight, because I think the Minister of Labour might be able to play a role in it, even if it is only making a statement in regard to where the Department of Labour or this country ought to stand in this respect.

This is an important question in labour relations between our country and the United States. The United Farm Workers organizing committee in connection with the grape workers sent up to this country early in the summer, I believe, United States organizers to promote the boycott of California grapes. They decided to promote this boycott in the large Canadian cities of Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver because these were the cities being used as an outlet for grapes produced by non-union labour, non-organized labour in California.

The grape workers organizers complained that these non-union people were living under very substandard conditions, that their wages were substandard that Canadian citizens were being flooded by grapes. They pointed out that some American cities were not going along with this underpaid, scab labour of non-union employees. I learned about this back in the summer, when these organizers called on me, and no doubt on other members of parliament, and certainly on other civic workers. The first I heard about it was when the mayor of Vancouver made a statement urging people to go along with these people and help boycott grapes. A few days later the people on the other side of the grape conflict got in touch with the mayor and he was invited to California by Governor Ronald Reagan to see conditions down there. He came back