

workers have now been laid off, not because they were bad workers and not because there was no work to do, but because they had exhausted their unemployment insurance.

The project was not really job creation. It was only a topping up of UIC. At the very time when these workers lost their unemployment insurance, they also lost their jobs. At the very time when they had developed the necessary skills for their jobs, they were laid off. One of these workers said he would have to leave his rented apartment and move in with his in-laws. Another worker said he had nothing to look forward to except welfare.

What twisted and perverse methods the Government uses in its so-called job creation! At the very least provision should be made for these workers to continue until the end of the project's life. I call on the Government to take action which will create real jobs, at real rates of pay, so that working people can have a real future.

* * *

THE ECONOMY

DROP IN INFLATION RATE

Mr. Douglas Fisher (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, inflation has dropped below the 5 per cent mark to 4.9 per cent. This represents our best anti-inflation performance in 11 years. The co-operation of the people of Canada, acting together in their own best interests and in the best interests of the economic health of our nation, has helped move Canada from economic stagnation to economic recovery in little more than a year. The six and five voluntary restraint program offered by the Liberal Government has been a key to this downward trend in inflation.

The inflation rate in October of 4.9 per cent is a demonstration that the 5 per cent target of the second year of the six and five program is a manageable one. The 4.9 per cent inflation rate in October is a confirmation that the six and five program is not about loss, as the opposition Parties would have Canadians believe, but offers new vigour and growth for our economy. That 4.9 per cent is another ray of sunshine burning through the clouds of doom and gloom which the Opposition uses to try to frighten Canadians into adopting the Opposition's economic policies, which would mean recovery for only a few well placed individuals.

* * *

THE ADMINISTRATION

CALL FOR HOLDING OF GENERAL ELECTION

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, the Liberal Government has brought the once buoyant united Canada to its knees. Today Canada is in a shambles. The National Energy Program and taxation have all but destroyed the oil and gas industry. The Gestapo Revenue Department is sucking the last drop of money out of small business, including farm-

S.O. 21

ers, causing hundreds of bankruptcies. Bill C-155 is paralyzing agriculture in the West, killing the potential of cattle and hog raisers and processors. Babies of the unemployed are crying for milk.

These socialist Liberals have killed the incentive to invest, have driven capital and jobs out of the country and, at the same time, through FIRA, have discouraged foreigners from investing in Canada. A million unemployed, thousands with no UIC benefits, are desperate, a situation leading to divorce and even suicide. So bad has this administration become that even a Liberal who is on the so-called Campagnolo Reform Committee told *Maclean's* magazine that the Liberal Party, and I quote:

—is tired, arrogant, self-serving, self-satisfied and irrelevant—

Cabinet Ministers are telling the unemployed to "starve" until the Speech from the Throne comes up, and even the Liberal President, Iona Campagnolo, is panicking. She set up a committee to "review, renew and reform" the Liberal Party. She should have told them to "embalm, encoffin and bury" the Party. I call on the Liberals to come out from behind the smokescreen, resign, and let a new leader, Mr. Brian Mulroney, and the PC Party take over the Government—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member's time has expired.

* * *

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

ELECTION OF TENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mr. Dave Nickerson (Western Arctic): Mr. Speaker, yesterday saw the election of the tenth Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories. In extending the congratulations of this House to the successful candidates, we would do well to recognize that, without exception, every Member of the new Legislature supports the concept of responsible government for the people of the Territories and an end to the vestiges of colonial rule retained by federal authorities.

● (1410)

Let us therefore join the new and re-elected Members of the Assembly in adopting their position, which is that espoused by the Official Opposition, namely, that the people of the North should have control over their own land, their own lives, and their own destiny; that they should be entitled to the same democratic rights and privileges as southern Canadians; and that the heavy hand of the Department of Indian Affairs be removed from their affairs.