Supply—Regional Development

am immensely encouraged by the information and indication from the minister that we are going to see a new set of criteria established for the so-called slow growth areas. Up to this time the criteria have related to the number of unemployed people in this country. I believe that the number of unemployed people is not a valid criteria as to whether a certain area requires assistance. I hope that the minister can perhaps give us some indication of these new criteria. Surely the criteria—

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Chairman, I rise on a question of privilege.

Mr. Perrault: Surely the criteria—

The Chairman: Order, please. Will the hon. member resume his seat.

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. I know the hon. member will not mind being interrupted at this point by the suggestion that in the six minutes left perhaps the minister would like to speak to the estimates in reply—

Some hon. Members: Order, order.

Mr. Perrault: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I should like to refer to a point of order.

The Chairman: Order, please. Will hon. members resume their seats. I understand the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond is rising on a question of privilege.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order because of the attempt made to table the document to which the hon. member referred. I draw Your Honour's attention to the fact that since this was not received by the chair, or properly tabled, and if such a document is to be tabled, similar figures should be provided by that hon. member for each and every province in the country.

Mr. Perrault: Mr. Chairman—

The Chairman: Order, please. I am advising the committee that the document was not tabled.

Mr. Perrault: I simply want to say that I premeditated the member's request. I had made statistics available to the table relating to every province in Canada, including British Columbia, Ontario and Saskatchewan, Alberta and all the rest. The facts are available.

[Mr. Perrault.]

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

The Chairman: Order, please. I should like to repeat that these figures were not tabled, nor was the document tabled. I understand the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond is rising now on a question of privilege.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, with all honesty I should like to say—

An hon. Member: You haven't had a valid point of privilege for five years.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I should like the hon. member to withdraw his remarks.

An hon. Member: Make it six years.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Chairman, I should like the hon. member to withdraw the remarks, that he premeditated my move in requesting that similar statistics be made available for all provinces.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

The Chairman: Order, please. May I suggest to the committee that I think the suggestion by the hon. member for Egmont was a reasonable one. If the committee wishes to hear from the minister in the last few minutes we should make provision to do so. On the other hand it is important to recognize that the hon. member has this time to use if he wishes.

Mr. Perrault: Mr. Chairman, I simply say to the hon. member that I anticipated his desire.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): I say to the hon. member, you are a liar.

Mr. Perrault: That is an unparliamentary expression but I shall just consider the source, Mr. Chairman. I shall complete my remarks and sit down very shortly. I urge the minister to tell us whether we are going to have a set of criteria which will take into account realistically the areas of slow development which exist in the country. Surely if a viable income base can be established anywhere in this country, in the maritimes or in British Columbia, let us provide assistance for such economic growth. If a viable income base cannot be established, then let us improve our manpower mobility program, our retraining program and simply leave the labour force where it exists. I think I echo