

Government Orders

trade, which is not what the member for York West referred to as a third reference.

When the minister takes a bill such as I read out, and refers to how much better service we are going to have, how cost efficient it is going to be, how it is going to have effective commercial operations and entrepreneurial benefits, he can only be referring to deregulation and privatization. I would suggest these have shown no efficiencies and no great entrepreneurial potential either. Certainly they have not shown better service.

If we refer to deregulation, whether it be of the trucking industry or the airline industry, or even the shipping industry, which is coming about, it certainly is proof that there have not been any of these efficiencies. The potential, which is supposed to be so inherent in what the government is doing with the airports, is not there.

As far as free trade is concerned, the promise of wealth and plenty for this country of ours certainly has not materialized in any way. As a matter of fact, we hear on a daily basis how much of a tragedy the free trade deal with the United States has been for this country. We also hear the fears expressed on a daily basis on how much more tragic this government's policies are going to be for this country when it gets into the free trade agreement with the United States and Mexico as well.

The minister stands up and speaks in such glowing terms of the potential of turning these airports over to local airport authorities. There is no reason why anyone on this side of the House should gain any comfort from what the minister says is going to occur.

There are many other examples of the government bringing forward, in glowing terms, bills it has introduced and saying how the country is supposed to become prosperous because all these wonderful things are going to occur.

One of the things which the bill talks about about is employees' pensions. These are so vital to the federal government employees and must be protected after the employees are transferred to the local airport authorities.

If we look at Bill C-21, the Unemployment Insurance Act, the evidence is certainly there that this government's legislation, proposed in glowing terms, is going to

turn out to be an absolute disaster for the working people of Canada. There is no protection for them within that legislation at all.

As I have already pointed out, there is certainly no protection for the Canadian people within the concept of privatization, deregulation and free trade. Reference was made earlier on how the government is divesting itself of these presumably profitable airports. I suppose you could read along with that, Mr. Speaker, efficient and possibly even cost-effective, and perhaps, even better service in these larger profitable airports.

• (1740)

On the other hand, the smaller ones and I suppose also by implication from what the minister said, perhaps less efficient, where there is not quite as good service, and maybe not quite so much potential for the entrepreneurial potentialities, although what is supposed to be referred to within that I am not entirely sure. Perhaps it is all these little kiosks we see springing up in the airports where entrepreneurs have started up. I suppose, at least theoretically, they are making a tremendous amount of money on these little businesses they have set up.

The logic of it still escapes me. Why the government would not get rid of the inefficient ones which presumably are costing them money and let the real entrepreneurial spirit of this country take over and turn these smaller, less efficient, perhaps even implied because they are government run. Although we certainly have a great deal of experience in Saskatchewan which would prove that government run—particularly New Democratic government run operations—can be tremendously efficient—

An hon. member: Hogwash.

Mr. Fisher:—and tremendously profitable. It does escape me why the government would not turn these small airports over to the entrepreneurs and really prove to this country how wonderful the entrepreneurs of this country are.

Instead of that, of course, and I am really begging the question because we know the answer anyway, the government is turning over to their friends in the larger centres the operation of the airports where there is a tremendous amount of potential for making profit.