

area that has over 18 per cent unemployment. It is also the community that is hosting the majority of the boat people in British Columbia. So the poor pay again for the humanitarian gestures of the rest of us.

Many citizens, born in Canada, cannot afford decent housing and will never own a home—although they will pay taxes to subsidize mortgage tax credits for wealthy home owners. In downtown Vancouver over 2,000 poor people are on waiting lists for social housing, many of them single people and pensioners, living in cockroach infested rooms. I am sorry to say that they wait in vain because this government has no plans to build social housing. Why should they be joyful when over 600 Vietnamese refugees move into their over-crowded neighbourhood and others are offered CMHC houses at subsidized rates? We know that it is not the refugees' fault that our government has failed Canadians.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, it is the immigrant and the refugee who become scapegoats, not the government. Legitimate fears grow because our government will not provide for the basic rights of Canadians to jobs, housing, and services. Prejudice based on ignorance is soon inflamed by racists. Mr. Speaker, I urge Canadians, and through you, I urge every member in this House to press the conscience of our new government to provide an antidote to this backlash. We must develop jobs and affordable housing for all Canadians—including refugees. Social housing is essential and will stimulate our economy. Tenants, too, have rights. I believe also that shareholders living in co-operative housing developments are deprived of the new Tory Bonanza. Tory privatization of CMHC provides no social benefits—except profits for the privateers.

I want to stress two other points relating to immigration policy. I am sorry that the hon. minister is not here tonight. Mr. Speaker, our party favours a sensible immigration policy. If we open our doors to new Canadians we must have adequate financing for settlement services. It makes no sense at all to bring hundreds of refugees into a community and expect agencies to provide extra services without adequate government funding.

In Vancouver we have a multilingual service called "Mosaic" which is the major service agency for non-English speaking people in Vancouver. This association may be forced to close down because of the ridiculous "fee for service" method of financing of the federal government. In case our colleagues across the floor have not heard of this fee for service, it was introduced by the Liberals and is being carried out by the Conservatives. It provides for no overhead costs and requires unnecessary and costly bureaucratic procedures that intimidate many people. For example, if a non-English speaking person went to Mosaic to ask the way to the post office, he would have to fill out a form saying where he came from, what he does, when he came to Canada, his telephone number, his age, and might also be required to produce documents to prove all this. The worker would then have to fill out documents in order to get paid for the service. This is ridiculous. This method of funding also does not cover the cost of service for

people who do not speak English but who have been in the country for over three years. This means, of course, that many women are excluded since they have been at home raising small children and have had little opportunity to learn English.

Just as our Immigration Act discriminates against women by treating them as spouses with few rights of their own, so our federal settlement services ignore the needs of women. Immigrant women at home with small children take longer to learn English and often lead very isolated lives. They can benefit immensely from orientation programs, from ethnic home-school workers, and from training for future employment provided that babysitting is available.

● (2150)

The fee for service method of funding must go. Essential settlement services must be subsidized by the federal government on a regular grant system that is based on need, not on bureaucratic discrimination.

We in the New Democratic Party, Mr. Speaker, supported and prodded the government to open our doors to boat people out of common humanity and because we could not leave the burden of so many refugees to Southeast Asian countries of first asylum. But, how can the government justify the double standard that exists in our immigration policy, especially as it applies to refugees? How can Canada accept General Dang Van Quang as a permanent resident with his nefarious Vietnamese war record, while at the same time we refuse asylum to Galindo Madrid, a young political refugee who has proven that he is a responsible worker in Canada and whose life will be in danger if he is deported to Chile? Yet the decision of this government is to deport him. We also have heard this week, of the plight of six Polish refugees in Newfoundland who are being refused asylum by the Canadian government. How can we spend \$117 million for boat people—and we agree with this—while we ignore the economic needs of refugees in Nicaragua, and the urgent need for economic aid in Kampuchea? What we need is a more just, objective refugee policy based on United Nations' standards, with adequate procedures for appeal.

Many other reforms to the Immigration Act are needed. I hope the new Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Atkey) will eliminate discrimination as well as including the multicultural fact of Canada, in revisions that are planned. I want to assure the minister that we will work energetically to press for reforms and revisions to the act which are essential.

Before speaking about the need for a Canadian merchant marine, I must mention again that last Monday a major accident occurred in Vancouver East when the Second Narrows CNR Bridge across Burrard Inlet was damaged by a Japanese freighter. As a result, there has been a serious delay in shipping grain, coal, sulphur, potash and forest products. I urge all possible government action to repair this major transportation artery quickly so that ships can once again reach bulk terminals at the eastern end of Vancouver.

I must also call attention to a precedent taking place in the Canadian Arctic. Hon. members may not be aware of this