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process, whether it be family allowances for children, education for young adults, or health care for all. The Premier also makes an issue of fairness and standing up for Manitoba. That is why I am rising today to stand up for Manitoba.

The Manitoba Government's deeds betray its words. Last week's provincial Budget raised an already insidious payroll tax to 2.25 per cent. We know that this tax discourages job creation and chases away business. Worse, it taxes hospitals and independent schools.

This tax on the sick will cost St. Boniface Hospital some \$1.6 million and it will cost the Health Sciences Centre some \$3 million in this year alone. All of us in the House will understand what the NDP means when it talks about fairness: say one thing but do the opposite.

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[Translation]

IMMIGRATION

ILLEGAL DEMANDS MADE OF CERTAIN PORTUGUESE REFUGEES—REQUEST FOR GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, recent allegations concerning the network of phoney immigration consultants attest to the inaction of the Conservative Government.

Last year I urged the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Bouchard) to control such scandalous activities. The guilty individuals implicated in these operations related to false applications from Portuguese refugees are well known, but the Government has failed to take action. The Government missed an opportunity to send a strong signal indicating that those operations will not be tolerated. It would rather blame the immigrants who have been misled, and it chose to impose visas on friendly countries instead of going to the source of false statements.

Mr. Speaker, time has come to put an end to these illegal activities, and all Canadians expect immediate action.

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● (1415)

[English]

CANADA PENSION PLAN

LONDON LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY'S ACTION TO REDUCE DISABILITY PAYMENTS

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Mississauga South): Mr. Speaker, I draw to the attention of this House a great injustice perpetrated against my constituent Rosemary Barber, and other

disabled persons, by the London Life Insurance Company and George Weston Ltd. Rosemary Barber has incurable bone cancer and has been receiving disability payments since 1983. The insurance company disability payment is integrated with that of the Canada Pension Plan.

Last year this House recognized the serious problem of disabled people and decided to increase the CPP disability payment substantially by up to \$150 a month. At that time George Weston Ltd. elected to grab that money for itself and instructed its pension insurer, the London Life Company, which went along with the deal, to reduce Rosemary Barber's pension by the full increase in the Canada Pension.

Some Hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Blenkarn: The benefit paid to Rosemary Barber was actuarially sound before the Canada Pension was increased. The effect of the change is to enrich George Weston Limited at the expense of a disabled person.

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REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

SYDNEY STEEL CORPORATION MODERNIZATION—CALL FOR FULFILMENT OF COMMITMENT

Mr. Dave Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the obvious lack of concern the Government of Canada has for the people of eastern Nova Scotia. You will recall that in July of 1984 the Right Hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) gave a clear undertaking to those people that he and his colleagues were committed to the second phase of the modernization program at Sydney Steel. Eighteen months elapsed only to have an announcement by the former Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion, given front page coverage in local newspapers, that once again the Government was committed to modernization and had signed the agreement.

In June of 1986 the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Mazankowski) said in this House that the Government was in receipt of the business plan, was reviewing it, and would have an answer forthwith. We then waited an additional 12 months to hear from the government benches that they are once again going to review the plan. In fact, the Government has taken it upon itself to have five Ministers of the Crown review a commitment made in July of 1984. I say this is totally irresponsible behaviour by the Government. It should live up to its commitments or it will leave the people of Cape Breton with one alternative, that is to believe the Government is made up of nothing but a bunch of hypocrites.