

initiated in order to provide a better service to the majority of the people of this country.

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[English]

NEW EMPLOYMENT EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

USE OF FUNDS

Mrs. Jennifer Cossitt (Leeds-Grenville): Madam Speaker, I am concerned with the Government's promise last November to create 60,000 new jobs under the NEED Program which, to date, has in reality only created a maximum of 4,300 new jobs in Canada—another Liberal promise broken.

In my riding of Leeds-Grenville there are approximately 4,000 people without work, yet only 40 new jobs have been initiated to date. Even this number is actually misleading in that three of these positions are for jobs which would normally be done by federal Government term employees. In fact federal Government Departments are utilizing the NEED Program to fund projects which they would normally undertake to fund from their own departmental budgets, thus creating the impression that these budgets are keeping pace with inflation and are well within the six and five guidelines. What we have here is a sham, a redistribution of funds from departmental budgets into the NEED Program, and the illusion of job creation.

In real terms, the nearly two million unemployed people of this country will not be beneficiaries of the \$200 million in job creation. In my opinion these funds are not being used for the purpose for which they were intended, the creation of new jobs to put people back to work. Once again we find it difficult to believe in the credibility of the Government which promises to help those in need when, in actual fact, it is just juggling figures to make itself look good.

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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF CONTRIBUTION MADE BY FARM WOMEN

Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt-Lake Centre): Today, Madam Speaker, is International Women's Day, which provides opportunity for us to recognize the tremendous contribution made by women to our society and to reaffirm the necessity of allowing them the opportunity to work and to receive compensation for their work in whatever way they choose. Farm women, in particular, are part of an economic team which is most often a family, yet these women must fight for the smallest compensation and are still among one of the most under recognized groups in our society.

As an example, recent census data state that only 4.3 per cent of the Saskatchewan female labour force actually worked

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on family farms or businesses for no pay. Unfortunately, either a bias crept into the questionnaire in its administration, or the men filling out the forms did not recognize the contribution of their wives, mothers, daughters, and sisters.

The true cost of producing food is not currently reflected by the prices farm families receive for their products. Society should and must pay just compensation for farm families so that fair wages can be paid for all work on the farms. Only then can farm women, along with farm men, receive a return for their labour, contribute to pension plans, and achieve the sort of financial independence and security taken for granted by many men and women in our society.

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ENERGY

CALL FOR MAINTENANCE OF DOMESTIC OIL PRICE STABILITY

Mr. Bill Yurko (Edmonton East): Madam Speaker, there can no longer be any doubt that the most beautiful and talented young ladies live in Edmonton, as was again evidenced last night by the results with respect to the Miss Teen Canada Pageant. Both this year and last year the award has been won by a young lady from Edmonton.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Yurko: The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, while appearing before a committee several months ago, advised that the new Government direction in the energy sector is "stability and decisiveness", and that he would not be recommending any new taxes on the oil and gas sector in the forthcoming budget. This sector of the economy is suffering from instability. World oil prices are being subjected to severe buffeting and fluctuations.

In Canada the formula for setting domestic oil prices contained in the September, 1981, Canada-Alberta Oil Agreement is redundant. It is imperative that domestic oil price stability be maintained for the next several years to assist in the economic recovery of the nation. Therefore I ask the Government to follow its new directions in the energy sector and act with decisiveness to impose stability by fixing the domestic price of old oil at \$29.75 per barrel until this price reaches the world price, and then keep it there.

Madam Speaker: Order.

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STATUS OF WOMEN

TRIBUTE TO WORK OF SENATOR BIRD

Mr. Jack Masters (Thunder Bay-Nipigon): Madam Speaker, this past year has been a particularly significant one for Canadian women. We saw the Charter of Rights and Freedoms entrenched in our new Constitution. We saw the first