

agencies can do their work unmolested by Government whim or caprice, in a way which will have dependable financing. The people who are interested in these agencies will give to them, if only the Government will encourage them to do that through the "Give and Take" program.

Miss Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam): Something must be happening this afternoon, Mr. Speaker. This is the fourth or fifth occasion today when all the Parties in this House have agreed on something.

Mr. Huntington: There is an election coming up.

Miss Jewett: I am getting terribly worried about it. I agree, as does my Party, that the subject of the Bill should go to the Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs rather than the one that was originally mentioned, the Committee on External Affairs and National Defence, although that Committee, come to think of it, will probably change if the reorganization Bill ever goes through, because trade will presumably come out of it. In any event, we do agree and are pleased that the Hon. Member for Waterloo (Mr. McLean) introduced the Bill, but for different reasons.

I have been listening to all the comments on the Bill so far, and people are supporting its subject matter going to committee for rather different reasons. The Hon. Member for Mississauga North (Mr. Fisher) supports its going so he will have a chance to make another speech about everything the Government does in his constituency through Canada Works or Summer Works or whatever.

Mr. Fisher: Don't be cynical.

Miss Jewett: Well, the Hon. Member may be cynical. That seems to be the main reason he wanted to speak to the Bill this afternoon and wants it to go to the Committee.

The Hon. Member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta (Mr. Friesen), on the other hand, wants it to go to the Committee in order that we can have the Government removed from intervention in society where he believes that voluntary organizations can do the job just as well.

Mr. Friesen: Or better.

Miss Jewett: The Hon. Member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath), on the other hand, was the one with whom I found the closest affinity as far as his remarks were concerned.

Mr. Friesen: Watch yourself!

Miss Jewett: However, he did point out that we are now in a society of 1.5 million officially unemployed people. We have countless hundreds of thousands living below the poverty line. The implication of all his remarks was certainly not that the voluntary sector could look after all those people. It cannot. Therefore, I think we would all have to emphasize the need for a very comprehensive and shared approach, perhaps one might say, but certainly with governments having to take the initiative; a very comprehensive approach to the problems of unemployment and poverty.

Registered Charities

Back to the Hon. Member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta for a moment.

Mr. Friesen: Leave me alone.

Miss Jewett: I could not honestly agree when he said that there was nothing in the Bill that brought the Government into the scene as far as the voluntary sector was concerned. As I read it, it is suggesting that the Commission to be established will bring the Government in—this is found in Clause 6—in the sense that the Government will provide the voluntary sector with use of Government communications facilities such as telephone lines and computer time in off-peak periods, special rates or unique designation on charter and excursion flights and rail travel within Canada, special postal rates for informational materials and publications, and the use of unused premises or meeting rooms, all of which seem to me to be very admirable.

● (1740)

As the Hon. Member for St. John's East said, perhaps the most significant thing the commission will do is have contributions to voluntary organizations treated the same as political contributions are now treated. I am sure no one would deny that these all concern Government involvement.

The voluntary sector is perhaps hampered to some extent in its work by some of the so-called short-term employment programs in which the present Government is indulging. I believe that is the case.

I also wanted to comment on what I believe to be a remarkable growth in one part of the voluntary sector that perhaps has more people contributing to it than has been the case up to now. I am speaking of the voluntary sector in fields like international development, peace and disarmament. There are a number of areas in which many people are becoming extremely involved in setting up voluntary organizations. While CUSO has existed for some time, churches, other groups and non-governmental organizations are becoming increasingly involved in Third World problems.

An organization in my constituency called Public Education for Peace is a voluntary group dedicated to the idea of greater education on issues of arms control and disarmament. I believe this is a very hopeful development when volunteers are becoming increasingly involved and volunteer organizations are becoming more involved in our relationships particularly with Third World countries. I believe this involvement has been even greater than at any other time in Canada's recent history.

I hope it does not detract from what we contribute to the many excellent domestic, charitable and educational organizations. Indeed, I would hope, since Canadians are showing an equal concern over these matters which I have just mentioned, that the Government would be even more encouraged to bring positive and explicit proposals to the committee for ways to assist domestic and internationally oriented voluntary and charitable organizations. I hope the Hon. Member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta is wrong when he states that he does not believe the Government will do this.