

*Canada Labour Code*

ered by collective agreements, but with 530,000 employees under federal jurisdiction we have a responsibility to see that the best possible type of relations are developed.

I should like to say a word about featherbedding, a charge that is always made when there is technical change. It is being said now by CBC officials that NABET is creating a featherbedding situation, that changes have taken place, that more changes are contemplated and that NABET is reacting against these technical changes that will obviously result in the elimination of many jobs.

Mr. Speaker, they know that every time we find a senior official in the CBC who is not competent we use the Peter principle to promote him to the level of his incompetence. He is made a vice-president and put in a little office and soon has a whole string of people under him. Featherbedding can easily be eliminated at the managerial level if the government wishes to look at the situation. Why should they ask this of the little people in NABET, when they know there are at least 25 vice-presidents in the CBC raised to the level of their incompetence on the Peter principle? We know, and I am sure the government knows, that the CBC executive is crowded with incompetents. Why ask the workers to pay the penalty? Why should they be efficient? Why should they not go on strike to maintain their position, when these others cannot be fired?

Mr. Speaker, it is the same all over. The Canadian National Railways has more chiefs than Indians; everybody knows that. In my area there is the Ontario Northland Railway and every time a political figure makes a name for himself he is appointed to run the railroad. No wonder it does not run very well, because they do not have one competent person to run it. It still makes money, but that is because of the area. The CNR is the same, and I presume the CPR is too. Why ask the workers at the bottom? If there are four men sitting writing memos to each other, why not have two men running the engine? At least one could look out one side while the other looked out the other side; they would serve some function. But we try to get rid of the extra worker and do not try to get rid of the vice-presidents.

If we are really interested in facing this matter of change we should be fair to the workers, particularly those in the government, and not talk about featherbedding at the bottom until we get rid of featherbedding at the top. The mandarins are untouchable but it is easy to get rid of the people at the bottom. Mr. Speaker, featherbedding will exist and it is not the answer to technical change. If technical change is in the interest of the public, and it certainly is, then it should be possible for us to provide the worker with alternative employment.

There will always be bigots and reactionaries who oppose this type of legislation which is the minimum that could possibly be passed in the year 1972 to establish labour relations in a country as industrially advanced as Canada. These bigots will flourish when it is impossible to provide alternative employment to those displaced by technical change. It is essential to eliminate strikes, to eliminate the displacement that occurs because of technical change if we are not willing to face the problem of unemployment.

[Mr. Peters.]

The day we solve the problem of unemployment in Canada we will also solve the problem of labour relations. Those who say that today's unemployed are lazy, are wrong. If we could provide employment for the million people looking for work, I think 999,000 would be ready to go to work tomorrow. You would not see the fear of technological change that we now see when a man is told he is no longer employable because a machine is going to replace him, and when he knows there is no alternative employment in any other field.

May I call it ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker?

### PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

#### HEALTH—MOBILIZATION OF RESOURCES TO COMBAT CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES

**Mr. Stanley Haidasz (Parkdale):** Mr. Speaker, on February 24 I took the opportunity during the question period to bring to the attention of the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Munro) the results of the alarming epidemiological studies revealing that cardiovascular disease has become in Canada today the greatest public health problem.

• (2200)

In 1971, cardiovascular diseases were the number one killer in Canada. In that year they took the lives of 77,000 people. Last year, heart attacks and strokes together accounted for 50,000 deaths in our country. The increase in life expectancy through the control of infectious diseases in infancy and childhood accounts for the fact that more Canadians live to an age at which they die from the complications of arteriosclerosis. Recent studies by the Canadian Heart Foundation show that today there are 2½ million Canadians suffering some form of cardiovascular disease.

Absenteeism, reduced productivity, loss of wages resulting from sickness, chronic disability and deaths due to cardiovascular disease are staggering in their proportions. The estimated annual economic loss to Canada is over \$200 million. The human tragedy and suffering are incalculable. To date, medical research has done a great deal to cope with some forms of these diseases, especially in the field of cardiovascular surgery. But research into these diseases is still inadequate. We need to allocate more money to find the cause, and therefore prevent the occurrence of cardiovascular disease. Only \$5 million was spent on research in the field of cardiovascular disease last year, and of that total only \$1½ million was contributed by the federal government.

I would like to take advantage of the occasion this evening, Mr. Speaker, to appeal to the Minister of National Health and Welfare to allocate more financial resources in order to increase the amount of research that is being done in this field. We also need to provide more money for