

Oral Questions

position that has been put forward by the Minister of the Environment and by the Liberal Government.

AUTONOMY OF RESIDENTS WITHIN PROPOSED PARK

Mr. G. M. Gurbin (Bruce-Grey): Madam Speaker, I think the broader question here is the level of autonomy that can be expected by people who live within the boundaries of a national park. It is an important question, and a question which the Minister needs to address with some sort of a guarantee in this House. If the proposal proceeds, and if my constituents and myself are to give support to this proposal for it to proceed, what guarantees will we have that we will continue to have local autonomy and be able to exercise democratic self-determination? What demonstration is there that we can have confidence or trust in the Minister's answers, in view of the practices of the Liberal Government in the recent past?

Hon. John Roberts (Minister of the Environment): Madam Speaker, we will not proceed with the establishment of a national park in that area, or indeed in any area, unless it has the support and approbation of the people in the area. We undertake an extensive series of consultations to try to ensure that support is there. When we develop to the point of knowing that there is that support, we proceed on the basis of a development or a management plan that is extensively discussed with the people. That is the process by which we establish a park, and that is the process by which the kinds of guarantees about future development are made.

Mr. Nielsen: It didn't happen with Kluane.

Mr. Roberts: I do not know how I can answer more clearly the serious question which I think the Hon. Member is asking. In terms of some rather unfortunate political allusions that I think the Hon. Member has made in the rest of his speech, I would simply advise him to look at past answers which have been given to Members' questions in the House of Commons and I think he would agree—I hope he will agree—that the kind of allusion he has made is unwarranted.

Mr. Clark: Stop hiding the information. Table the Buchanan documents.

* * *

LABOUR CONDITIONS

UNEMPLOYMENT IN ONTARIO

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. The number of unemployed in the Province of Ontario has now reached half a million. I am sure the Minister realizes that this number is the equivalent of the total population of a number of our Provinces. The Government's reaction to date has certainly not recognized the human misery and suffering that this unemployment has created.

The programs which the Government has brought forward will provide employment for somewhat less than 13 per cent of the total number of the people unemployed in Ontario. Will the Minister now begin a systematic and quick review of the steel industry, which is at a modern-day low, the auto industry which is in serious jeopardy, the farm implement industry, which is rapidly declining, and the housing industry which is virtually at a standstill? Will the Minister bring in programs now which will introduce into those industries some appropriate stimulus that will bring about their recovery so that people who are currently unemployed will be able to look forward to an opportunity to work?

[Translation]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member mentioned a number of problems that clearly indicate the Government's policy must be one of stimulating investment across Canada, in all industries and sectors. The Hon. Member will have realized that it would be impossible for the Government to create directly all the jobs required at the present time. The solution is to stimulate the private sector, to restore investor confidence and to stimulate consumer demand. I would also remind the Hon. Member that there are indications in the housing industry that a recovery has started. To give an example, the Urban Development Institute has announced that next year, according to its projections, 150,000 new housing units will be built in Canada, a substantial improvement over this year's situation and also over previous projections. I would therefore invite the Hon. Member to reflect on all of these factors during the weekend.

[English]

PROVISION OF FULL-TIME JOBS

Mr. Cyril Keeper (Winnipeg-St. James): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Employment and Immigration. Today's labour statistics indicate that over a one year period, since November, 1981, the Canadian economy has lost some 500,000 full-time jobs. Yet the Minister's announcements over the past year, the latest of which is the NEED Program, have focused upon temporary employment. The Minister has even refused during committee hearings to provide information on the number of full-time jobs his programs have created.

In light of the labour force statistics, which indicate a loss of half a million full-time jobs, is the Minister prepared to recognize the need for full-time employment in this country? As well, is the Minister prepared to put in place an emergency program to provide full-time employment for the half a million people who have lost work over the last year, particularly in light of the fact that during the past 12 months half a million Canadians who are heads of households, and primarily responsible for taking care of their families' needs have lost their jobs as well?

Mr. Nowlan: That is a supplementary speech.