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In fact, the labour laws in British Columbia have been brought in, in a similar vein. For example, there is a provision in the British Columbia labour law to eliminate the very kind of scab labour that the member for Western Arctic was complaining about in terms of the Giant mine dispute which resulted in a tremendous amount of violence taking place on the picket line at the Giant mine.

Anti-scab legislation will soon be in effect in Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec. As a result, in those provinces we are going to see a reduction in picket line violence. Hopefully, before the federal Minister of Labour leaves office he will adopt similar anti-scab legislation because I cannot see the possibility of the Liberals doing that when they take office, if that is the member's concern about the labour legislation in Ontario.

I think what the member is concerned about is that great strides have been taken in labour legislation in Ontario for the first time after many, many years of Liberal and Tory government. It is now catching up to some of the western provinces like Saskatchewan and British Columbia and in some areas catching up to more rational labour legislation in Quebec.

I am very proud of what has been done in terms of the progress made in labour legislation in those provinces. I hope the member will take a closer look at them before he asks his questions.

With respect to closing hospital beds, I think the member will understand that there is a new direction taking place in health care. In part it is being forced upon provinces by cutbacks in transfer programs and EPF funding and in some of the wealthier provinces like Ontario, Alberta and Quebec, through cutbacks in Canada Assistance Plan funding.

I have talked to ministers of finance and ministers of health from those provinces who are forced into extremely difficult positions in terms of dealing with health care because the federal government is constantly cutting back on those transfer payments. In fact, that process started when the Liberals were in office and that pressure was put on provinces prior to the Conservative government coming into office in 1984. Therefore, the Liberals have nothing to be proud about in terms of the cutbacks in transfer payments to fund hospital and health care in the provinces. That is the real reason for the cutback in hospital beds.

**Mrs. Barbara Sparrow (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I want to say to my colleague from Comox—Alberni that he did add substance to the debate. I thank him for that. He discussed issues dealing with the economy and social affairs of this nation and I think that is what this House should be all about. I have to say that while he outlined certain philosophies he believes in, I do not agree with him but that is fair ball.

I do want to ask him questions regarding jobs and employment. He is right. This is a major area, because we have to give those people the tools to go and get the work so they can get off welfare or UI and create revenue. We have already allocated some \$3.2 billion to retrain people on UI. It seems to me that the hon. member voted against changes regarding the UI bill we brought in about a year or a year and a half ago.

The hon. member also said that he was very much against the free trade agreement. I understand his philosophies. But we are an exporting nation and if the rest of the world is moving into trading blocs, such as Europe and the Pacific Rim, we cannot stick our heads in the sand. We either get out there and compete and beat, or we are not going to maintain our standard of living. The same is true for NAFTA.

The hon. member mentions that he does not agree with privatization. I happen to agree. But the question comes down to this: How are we going to raise revenues? We cannot tax the people any more. What we have to do is cut expenditures and maybe reallocate.

I would like to hear the hon. member's ideas and the substance of his concerns on how we could reallocate funds to help those people really in need.

**Mr. Skelly (Comox—Alberni):** I would like to thank the member for the question. Over the years in this House, in this Parliament, our party has put forward a number of proposals that would first of all generate revenues. Those proposals would also distribute revenues more fairly so that they would not all be taken off the backs of the lower and middle income workers and all the credits would not go to people at the high end of the income