

S. O. 31

because I am bound by the rules I have had to interrupt the hon. member and I will have to go on.

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[Translation]

THE SENATE

Mr. Nic Leblanc (Longueuil): Mr. Speaker, several months ago, the Liberal party, assisted by a non-elected Senate and for strictly partisan reasons, blocked the passage of Bill C-22, so that hundreds of Canadian researchers were unable to develop new drugs for the well-being of Canadians and thus create thousands of new jobs in research.

Today, we see the same scenario: the Liberals, with a Liberal non-elected majority in the Senate, have decided to block Bill C-21 and keep \$800 million from being spent on much needed manpower training programs.

Mr. Speaker, are we really in a democratic country when this is the result of Liberal arrogance? Mr. Speaker, I deplore this perverse exercise. It is time it was stopped.

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• (1410)

[English]

THE SENATE

Mr. René Soetens (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, in the past I have spoken in favour of the amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Act, Bill C-21, and how they affect my riding.

Now Senator MacEachen and that Liberal bunch in the other place are denying my constituents those benefits. To the unemployed in my riding requiring retraining so that they can get back into the workforce, Liberals are saying: "wait". To those mothers who are experiencing problems during pregnancy and could use some additional benefits during the difficult times, Liberals are saying: "Keep working and suffer". To those families who want both mother and father to enjoy the birth of their child while allowing the mother to return to the workplace sooner, Liberals are saying: "Too bad". To the displaced older worker, who needs assistance to re-enter the workplace, Liberals are proving they really do not care. To parents who have waited a long time for

the opportunity to adopt a child, Liberals are saying: "You are not entitled to parental benefits".

I call upon the Senate to show some caring and compassion for those in Canada who truly need help.

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THE LATE DR. HELEN CREIGHTON

Mr. Ron MacDonald (Dartmouth): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Dr. Helen Creighton, a native of Dartmouth and one of the most outstanding Nova Scotians of her generation, who passed away last Tuesday at the age of 90.

In her early years, during the 1920s, she worked as a social worker and as a teacher before her love of music and folklore became her vocation. Starting in 1928, Helen Creighton became a familiar figure throughout rural Nova Scotia, bouncing down gravel roads, arriving at isolated homes, and chronicling the songs and stories of the people who had passed them down from generation to generation.

Throughout her lifelong pursuit, Dr. Creighton gathered and recorded over 4,000 songs in English, French, Gaelic, Micmac, and German and she wrote extensively on her maritime heritage. As testament to their worth, her works can be found in the Library of Congress in Washington, the National Archives and, most important, the Public Archives of Nova Scotia.

Dr. Creighton was a prolific writer and a great listener, but most of all she was a visionary who saw the value of the treasure of Nova Scotia's music, culture and heritage.

Mr. Speaker, colleagues, probably the best known song of Dr. Creighton's collection is *Farewell to Nova Scotia*. Today, on behalf of all Nova Scotians, I say farewell to her. Our generation and future generations will enjoy her remarkable legacy of music and folklore for she has truly given us a record of our history.

On behalf of the people of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, and Canada, I say farewell and Godspeed to Dr. Helen Creighton.

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SENATE REFORM

Miss Deborah Grey (Beaver River): Mr. Speaker, as we look around us this Christmas, we must not forget that there is still an overabundance of war and hunger and disease in the world. Yet, this is also a special year.