

our dollar in relation to the American dollar would have been very close to par, in that event.

Gold went up from \$35 an ounce to almost \$200 an ounce. Now it is approximately \$162 an ounce, and in my opinion, it is headed once again for the \$200 an ounce level. Therefore, it would not be a bad idea to consider doing something about gold, as it is an activity which requires high employment. It is not the kind of activity which requires immense equipment. It is not the kind of mining activity where there are large veins and the use of large equipment is required. The industry requires a lot of employees. It should be thought about, especially when the currencies of all the countries in the world are very shaky and many of them are taking their lead from the Canadian economy, which is the worst in the field.

This government talks about bailing out corporations; it talks about giving out \$1½ billion in tax concessions to corporations. These corporations are not working to capacity. They do not have foreign markets and they do not have sales for their products. It seems somewhat ridiculous to give them more money, without any controls. If assistance was provided to the resource sector, whether it be in the forest or mining industry, a lot of secondary jobs would be created very easily in this country.

How many jobs could be created in Sudbury by the establishment of smelting and refining plants there, rather than the shipment of raw materials to Norway and other ports? How many jobs would be created in northern Ontario if lignite is not developed in the Cochrane area? Iron ore should be brought in from the Adams mines at Kirkland Lake, the Temagami mines and from Belcher Islands to be produced in northern Ontario. That would result in the production of six times as many jobs as would the use of very elaborate, costly and heavy equipment to mine, with a minimum of employment and a maximum of profit.

Members opposite may want to have a national emergency debate on the state of our nation, but those interested in employment should honestly participate in this debate. I am sure some hon. members opposite are faced with unemployment in their constituencies. The only reason they do not participate in this debate is that they depend upon the national Liberal party to provide them with funds for the election which will come up very shortly. They do not want to rock the boat. Since this session started, only the hon. member for Fort William (Mr. McRae) felt strongly about the wishes of his constituents to rise and vote against what he knew was a bad bill. In fact, 50 per cent of his colleagues from the northern regions of this country realized this was a bad bill. That hon. member voted against it. His colleagues should be proud of him for the guts he displayed.

This is an important debate. The economy of Canada has not been in such bad shape since the last depression. If the government knows nothing about the economy, it should talk to the people who are unemployed. They know about the economy and would be willing to participate. Also, they would be willing to ask the Minister of Finance (Mr. Chrétien) to provide the economic leadership that would provide jobs, and

Inflation

not just vote for an inept government which happens to be in power.

May I call it five o'clock?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, public bills, private bills and notices of motions.

• (1702)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order No. 2, in the name of the hon. member for Matane (Mr. De Bané).

Some hon. Members: Stand.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order No. 4, in the name of the hon. member for Egmont (Mr. MacDonald).

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SOCIAL AFFAIRS

PROVISION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES TO DEAL WITH INFLATION

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse) moved that Bill C-205, to provide for emergency measures to deal with the inflation of prices, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I would like—

Mr. Yvon Pinard (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, there is an order to which there has been no answer. I ask on behalf of the government that the order stand.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Agreed. But I would insist that the hon. parliamentary secretary do so when orders are called, otherwise we would establish in the House a practice which will be very difficult to follow. As long as we do not decide on a new procedure, when the Chair goes to the trouble of calling an order, I wish someone would speak up because that creates a problem. I think that those who have the responsibility to speak on behalf of the government should do so. The House has heard the hon. parliamentary secretary who asked, on behalf of the government, that Orders Nos. 2 and 4 stand.

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, I would like to understand the remark you have just made so that it could be useful to us in the future. Do you want me to stand up each time you call an order to ask for such and such order to stand or do you want me to advise you right at the beginning by saying: do not call orders, proceed directly to such and such order? I am prepared to make your task easier but I should like to understand the nature of your request.