

fruit growers, vegetable growers and tobacco growers, among others.

This decision shows a complete lack of understanding and lack of regard for the position of such employers, and will have a negative effect on their ability to produce labour-intensive horticultural crops. This decision is totally incompatible with the Government's objective of import labour replacement and the creation of more jobs for Canadians in the horticultural industry.

Because of the drastic downturn of our economy, everything should be done to help maintain and encourage the horticultural industry in Canada, but creating difficulties and administrative nightmares is totally negative and discouraging. I hope the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Axworthy) will also see the unfairness of this whole matter and take it upon himself to revoke this regulation by reinstating Clause 16(1) of the Unemployment Insurance Regulations, which is not only totally fair and equitable, but is also imbued with that rare commodity, common sense.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

AUTOMOBILE POLLUTION CONTROL DEVICES

Miss Aileen Nicholson (Trinity): Madam Speaker, Canadian cars are not now equipped with pollution-control devices to the same extent as American cars. Although standards were identical in both countries in the early 1970s, American cars are now estimated to cause only one-seventh as much pollution as Canadian cars. Traditionally, Canadians have paid more for their cars than Americans; however, our before-tax costs are now lower. There is evidence that emission-control devices do not reduce engine performance or add materially to the cost of the car.

This would seem a good time to act to protect our environment from the carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons which are spewed out by our cars. There would also be opportunity for job creation in refining and using emission-control devices. I understand Environment Canada is studying the question, and I look forward to seeing the Minister introduce this matter to the House for discussion and decision.

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● (1410)

LABOUR CONDITIONS

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS AND POLICY

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Madam Speaker, at a time when unemployed Canadians number almost 1.6 million, and, when added to those who are underemployed or only able to find part-time work, the number comes to over 2

million, it is clear that the Government must start somewhere to resolve this serious problem. It is equally clear that no solution to any problem thus far solved by the Government has come without a willingness to expend the sizeable amounts of money that problem solving in Government takes.

As the well-known Chinese proverb has it, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step". Accordingly, it is in the spirit of my usual bipartisanship that I extend my congratulations to the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and his ever-supportive caucus on their success in tackling the national unemployment problem, starting with Senator Pitfield and Donald Macdonald. May I further take the liberty of pointing out to him that should his anti-unemployment program ever expand to that degree, there is 11.6 per cent of the work force in my riding of Parry Sound-Muskoka that would like to be squeezed into it as well.

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CANADIAN RADIO-TELEVISION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

REPORT ON CANADIAN CONTENT IN TELEVISION PROGRAMMING

Mr. Mark Rose (Mission-Port Moody): Madam Speaker, the CRTC recently released its report on Canadian content on television. Although this report contained only draft regulatory changes, it is a laudable attempt to deal with the following items: first, the relegation of Canadian programming to non prime time hours; second, the almost total absence of high quality Canadian drama on our private networks, and third, the other problems relating to the small size and fragmentation of the Canadian television market.

The CRTC, as regulator, is trying to ensure that viewers have the opportunity to watch first-rate Canadian television, but little more can be done until the Government tables legislation and policies to deal with broadcasting problems in the 80s. For a year, now, we have been entertained by stories of imminent changes and new initiatives, but each promises has been followed by a new excuse for Government inaction, and the abdication of its policy-making role.

Meanwhile, we have total confusion concerning the part that new delivery technologies, notably dishes, will play in the future of Canadian television, and we have a CBC which is powerless to meet new challenges or to plan for the future because the Government reneged on its promise to increase funding, which has decreased over the last five years.

We have no new incentives to help our private broadcasters tap the increased international market for new programs.

We lack new initiatives to help train our visual artists. The 80s are here, and we need to stimulate private sector production of better Canadian TV entertainment.