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picture. These facts should cause very real concern to all parliamentarians, especially the Government.

Unemployment is up to 11.2 per cent, 1,476,000. There were 47,000 jobs lost in the last month alone, and there are 31,000 less employed in Ontario. What jobs are disappearing? Construction and manufacturing. There are 14,000 less jobs in manufacturing, most of which are in Ontario.

• (1110)

The Finance Minister's budget of February 15 must address the problems being faced by the industrial sector. It is an area where meaningful, full-time employment creation can and must take place. I urge the Minister to give special attention to this area of the economy. It is a national disgrace that Canada's unemployment rate is rising at a time when the rate of our neighbour to the south and the rates of other industrial countries' are declining.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CENTRAL AMERICA—CALL FOR NEGOTIATION OF PEACEFUL SETTLEMENTS

Mr. Stanley Hudecki (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, Canadians are continually concerned with the destructive effects that the increasing militarization in Central America is having on the development process, and consequently on the people in that region. All countries must accept a pluralistic Central America in which there is co-existence between states of different political and economic ideologies.

Attempts to solve Central American problems by military force should be stopped immediately. A greater commitment to a negotiated settlement through the Contadora process should begin. Canadians can help achieve these goals by supporting the Contadora Group more actively at the United Nations and in other international bodies, especially the aid agencies and financial institutions.

In addition, Canada should do everything possible to ease tensions in the region by opening an embassy in Nicaragua. This move is essential if Canada is to have a more effective listening post in Central America so that we can better distinguish the true situation in the region.

Mr. Stevens: No way.

Mr. Hudecki: At the present time the Canadian Ambassador to Nicaragua is resident in Costa Rica and is responsible for Costa Rica, Panama, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. Canadians are being represented in an emergency by the U.S. Embassy in Nicaragua.

Mr. Stevens: Leave him there. I am surprised at you.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, the official figures on unemployment sketch a tragic picture in spite of government talk about any so-called economic recovery. While bank and corporation profits recover, unemployment rates have soared; 150,000 more people were officially unemployed in January than December. The rate for young people rose a full 2 per cent, and now more than one in five of our youth is officially unemployed.

No wonder our new Minister of State for Youth (Mrs. Hervieux-Payette) talks about young people rioting in the streets. But what is the Minister or her Government doing? The official rates are bad enough, but they do not tell the entire story. In my riding and others many unemployed young people cannot even be referred for Canada Works projects because they are not officially attached to the labour force. They are not attached to the labour force because they have never had a job. They cannot get a job on a Canada Works project because they are not attached to the labour force. The Government must end this tragic "catch-22" and at least ensure that Canada Works guidelines do not discriminate against young people looking for their first job.

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POLITICAL PARTIES

PRESENTATION IN SUPPORT OF PRIME MINISTER

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon West): Mr. Speaker, I am glad to see that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) is back. When he walked in, it just occurred to me that I could extemporize a bit and let him know what is going on.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Hnatyshyn: The Prime Minister will be interested to know that Senator Keith Davey gave a dog and pony presentation to the Liberal caucus this week to convince the one or two doubting members who still have questions concerning the continuation of the present leadership of the Party that the Prime Minister should stay. After this caucus, Canadians watching the evening news saw grim-faced Liberal Members leaving the caucus room. Now any presentation promoting the Prime Minister to stay on for one more go, complete with slides and charts, should not be limited to a small group, including a few malcontents who obviously do not have any sense of humour. Indeed, I think on the basis of the subject itself, Senator Davey may qualify for the annual Leacock award for humour. Why should Canadians not have an opportunity to have a big belly laugh?

I call on Senator Davey to make public his presentation immediately because, even though it may make a certain Bay Street lawyer blanch, I think it will provide hilarity to the vast majority of the Canadian people.