

● (1650)

The government has had many opportunities to solve the problem of our native people, but new ghettos are being created all the time. Chinese people and Indian people who cannot be absorbed properly into the country, and who cannot find jobs suitable to them, are being admitted under the act. So are people who advocate the forceful overthrow of the country . . .

These people are coming in so rapidly that they are not fitting properly into the fabric of Canadian society. They are locating in ghettos, dozens to a house. Does this give them respect for the Canadian system and our government? It does not. It just creates cells for further reactionary groups to work against the fundamental principles for which this House is supposed to stand.

I wish to dissociate myself from these statements, Mr. Speaker. The hon. member also stated, as recorded in *Hansard*:

Do not label me as a racist.

I think the words of the hon. member will be judged on their own merits. Why these two groups of immigrants to Canada were chosen for comment are best known only to the hon. member. This government is aware there are problems that new immigrants have when first arriving in Canada, but this is true of all immigrants, not just East Indians and Chinese.

Perhaps the most important factor in economic development is the part played by the Indian-Eskimo Economic Development Fund. This fund, which is a refinement of the old Indian Loan Fund, was introduced in 1970, and offers a wide and varied program. A tremendous array of potential development projects, small and large, have been brought about because of this fund. There has been a steady upward trend to venture realization, with the only limiting factor being the people and dollar resources available to take care of the accelerated demand on the fund. From 1970 to November 30, 1974, the fund has grown from \$6,050,000 to \$60,000,000, and approved 2,629 applications for \$65,302,190, producing a potential of 6,437 jobs. In addition, 847 offers for \$11,786,502 through grants and contributions were approved for the same period. There are many examples of the fund in action.

An experimental oyster rearing industry has been in operation on the Eskasoni Reserve in Cape Breton for quite some time. In the province of Quebec a fish plant was established at Mingan in 1973. This plant, P.M. Packers, was originally started as a crab-packing operation but is changing to the freezing of shrimp and groundfish.

In Ontario a number of interesting and potentially profitable enterprises have been started. In the Kenora district a mink coat manufacturing plant is in operation. Another quite successful operation has been the Ojibway Ski Resort at Thunder Bay. Membership continues to grow with each passing year, and the ski resort has been able to compete, quite successfully, with other winter sport operations in the area.

In Manitoba the Pas Band has started construction on a new \$6 million shopping centre complex which should provide income for the band as well as providing jobs for band members.

In Saskatchewan, there is a very successful scrap metal operation known as Native Metals. This business turns scrap metal, from old railway cars, into money and jobs. In Alberta, a very successful 30-unit motel business, complete

#### *Indian-Eskimo Employment Authority*

with dining and lounge facilities, is operating in Lesser Slave Lake. This motel has been so successful that 28 more units and a tavern are being added. In British Columbia the Bella Bella Band has become involved, with the advice and help of the department, in a number of enterprises such as a general store, a fuel company and a laundromat operation.

The Northwest Territories can boast of a very successful construction company in that the Dene Matt operation is progressing at a rate greater than anticipated. Old Crow Co-op in the Yukon does quite an adequate job of servicing that northern community.

To sum up briefly, outlined are only a very small number of the many businesses the department has had a hand in assisting at various stages of development. It is hoped, as more successes are brought about, that these successes will provide incentive which will encourage more Indian people to become actively involved in the business world.

Finally there is the work opportunity program. The prime objective of the work opportunity program is to increase individual and community autonomy. The program also seeks to coordinate the use of capital and operating funds in such a way as to increase the availability of employment opportunities for Indian people in their own communities. In addition the program aims at providing facilities and services required in Indian communities but which ordinarily have a low priority.

**Mr. Peters:** Mr. Speaker, as I am sure no one would want to talk out this very important bill, would you now put the question?

**Mr. Watson:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. We heard a long list of government efforts on the job front by the hon. member who has just spoken. It so happens that the unemployment rate among Indian males remains at 50 per cent in spite of all these programs. That is why we should do something about this bill today.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Penner):** Order, please. The hon. member is aware that that is not a point of order. He is participating in the debate. The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of the Environment.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Len Marchand (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment):** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the hollering from across the aisle. It always happens on occasions like this when members get up to speak and perhaps run out the time during private members' hour.

There is some real concern. I do not know about the House leaders on the other side, but there has been concern on this side about the number of items that can be referred to a committee for study. The subject matter of the hon. member's bill is, no doubt, serious, but it is broad. Just because this particular bill does not get referred to committee at this time does not mean the subject matter cannot be discussed.

The hon. member has a very good reputation for diligence. When he was chairman of the Indian Affairs committee he brought in a very good report on Indian educa-