

the decision to decommission the ship, not to scrap it, the original decision has to stand.

**Mr. Paproski:** Mr. Speaker, would it not make sense to continue the ship in operation so that the taxpayer can get some of his money back?

### AIR TRANSPORT

#### IMPOSITION OF PROHIBITIVE TICKET TAX BY CZECHOSLOVAKIA

**Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Transport. What is the result of the representations the minister undertook to make, through the Secretary of State for External Affairs, to Czechoslovakia about the prohibitive air ticket tax and the clampdown on travel visas introduced just as Air Canada's flights to Prague were being inaugurated?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, the Czechoslovakian tax applies only to pleasure travel undertaken by residents of that country and paid for in the currency of that country. It does not apply to tickets purchased with other currency or purchased by people other than Czechoslovakians. It is not anticipated, therefore, that it will have any significant effect on the new bilateral agreement now in operation between Czechoslovakia and Canada, and the airline proposes to proceed as planned.

• (12 noon)

### GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[Translation]

#### BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

##### ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—EFFECT OF ECONOMIC POLICIES ON UNEMPLOYMENT

**Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie)** moved:

That this House urges the government to take immediate steps to change its economic policies which are contributing to the growing rate of unemployment as evidenced by the figures just released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

He said: Mr. Speaker, on page 8 of his working paper on the Constitution, entitled "Income Security and Social Services", the Right Hon. Prime Minister of Canada (Mr. Trudeau) outlines the role of the central government as follows:

The Government of Canada must be given sufficient powers in the Constitution to enable it to

#### *Economic Policies and Unemployment*

stimulate and expand the economy, and to manage the economy in such a way as to maintain high levels of employment.

It must also "have the power to redistribute income and to maintain reasonable levels of livelihood for individual Canadians, if the effects of regional disparities on individual citizens are to be minimized."

These are the statements of policy made by the Prime Minister in his working paper on the Canadian Constitution.

As for me, I maintain that the central government already has or assumes, if need be, the powers requested by the Prime Minister. Far from using them to promote economic development and to maintain employment at a high level, the government policy has caused the dislocation of the economic structure and an alarming and dangerous increase in the unemployment rate in Canada.

Although they have been warned by economists, union leaders, administrators, manufacturers and columnists of big Canadian newspapers the government and particularly the Minister of Finance (Mr. Benson) are pursuing a ridiculous and unrealistic economic policy whose effects can only endanger further the future of Canada's economy and bring disastrous and unavoidable consequences on the human and social level.

The immediate effect of tightening credit, of maintaining high discount rates and of the uneasiness caused by the white paper is a constant increase in unemployment. The motion I proposed today is once again an attempt to bring the government and the Minister of Finance to their senses as far as it is possible, and to bring them to create the "just society" which was their slogan at the last general federal election.

The motion, I am making a point of repeating it, reads as follows:

That this House urges the government to take immediate steps to change its economic policies which are contributing to the growing rate of unemployment as evidenced by the figures just released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Mr. Speaker, I do say:

That this House urges the government—

The motion is not directed to members of the opposition, but to all members of the House. We ask them to take immediately the necessary measures in order to remedy the present disastrous conditions of unemployment in Canada.

The causes of unemployment are numerous. The government policy is not solely responsi-