

*Employment Tax Credit Act*

league the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) in connection with a matter which is very closely linked to employment and job incentive programs in northern Alberta. I should like to draw to the minister's attention that 16,000 jobs were created during the construction phase of Syncrude. Ten thousand of these were in Alberta and six thousand in the rest of Canada. Now a word about the cost-benefits. The cost of construction was over \$2 billion, and of that sum more than \$300 million was spent in central Canada just to purchase goods used in construction. Virtually every province received orders in connection with this gigantic plant. In addition, Syncrude created 3,200 permanent jobs, since increased to 3,800. With the Cold Lake plant ready to go at 2.3 times this size, agreement on oil pricing with Alberta which would allow this work to go ahead is of the highest importance since it would create many more jobs than would the legislation before us.

**Mr. Doug Anguish (The Battlefords-Meadow Lake):** Madam Speaker, I should like to take part in this debate, but before I speak to the bill I should like to make a couple of comments. I should like to congratulate the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Axworthy) on his appointment to the cabinet. I should like to say to him that a good many people from western Canada are putting a lot of faith in him that he will give a strong voice and accept representations from western Canada.

I should also like to say, in regard to some references made prior to the opening of this Parliament about NDP members being something like eunuchs in harems, that I have taken a sample survey of the caucus and in each case when I asked the members if they were eunuchs they said no. We have been far too busy with our parliamentary duties to be seeking out any harem and I hope other members can say the same.

This debate has gone on before. The minister himself refers to the program as a temporary measure designed to ensure that an effective job-creation program continues while the details of an employment program to be introduced as soon as possible are finalized. The word that catches my eye here is the word "temporary." Temporary programs have to stop. Band-aid measures have gone on for far too long and they have helped to create the problem instead of lessening it.

I do not think the government has stopped to evaluate the benefits of the band-aid programs which have gone on for so long. For almost 113 years Conservatives and Liberals have been responsible for the administration and they have put us into the devastating economic times in which we find ourselves today. We are living in a country today which is told in the Speech from the Throne it must look to the future and accept the restraints which are to be put upon us, that we must live within our means. The throne speech also says we shall have to make sacrifices to accept the challenges of the 1980s.

I see no need for Canadians to sacrifice to the extent they are sacrificing today in a country where we have so much, a high level of technology, a high standard of living and resources unparalleled anywhere in the world. At this time we find people leaving their homes and losing their jobs. Bill C-19

does nothing in the long term to reduce the level of unemployment to an acceptable one. The minister should be aware that as a band-aid measure this program extending employment tax credits will do nothing but complicate matters instead of lessening the unemployment burden in the long term. I am sure the hon. gentleman was intellectually inspired by the remarks of the hon. member for Prince George-Peace River (Mr. Oberle), who made a very stimulating speech the other day on the bill before us.

I should also like to tell the minister that we are happy the government was defeated in the last election. I say this because Brezhnev would not have been much different from Clark. Things in the country which Brezhnev controls are controlled by the government; every facet of the people's lives is controlled by the government with little regard for democratic procedure. In the country I am referring to, that is done through a dictatorial type of government and the government is the one that is reflected upon. You see, Mr. Speaker, in the case of this government, if we had continued without that election the people would have suffered hardships almost identical, not at the hands of this government but at the hands of the Conservatives and the multinational corporations to which they would have handed over control totally. To me, such a situation is unacceptable. I am glad the election came along and that the Conservative government was defeated.

**Mr. Kempling:** Another socialist sucker!

**Mr. Anguish:** As I said, the Liberals and the Tories have created this problem over the last 113 years. It has become a permanent one. Unemployment can no longer be treated as a temporary problem which will go away one day if we keep hanging on to band-aid measures of the kind we are now being asked to extend. It is a permanent problem and we shall have to adopt permanent solutions if we wish to overcome it.

According to official figures almost one million are unemployed. In real figures the total is more like a million and a half. They are tired of temporary measures too. Although a few hundred people may be made happy with temporary employment, enticing them to buy homes with heavy mortgages and to obtain easy access to credit from banks which gobble up their hard-earned cash and savings, what actually happens? They are left without their jobs, the temporary measures are over, the unemployment problem is still there and they have nothing to rely on; they have no savings, no economic strategy to which to look forward in hard and pressing times.

I should like now to talk for a few moments about some of the programs the government started and which I thought were good steps toward bringing unemployment in this country under control, programs which go back as far as the late 1960s and the early 1970s. One program I was very happy to see brought out in the late sixties was a program called New Starts. The concept of some of the New Starts programs was to look at ways of training adults to enable them to participate more fully in the work force. In Saskatchewan they started a program that I was very familiar with. Many methods of