

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** Order, please. The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries and the Environment (Mr. Anderson) has the floor, and I will go to the hon. member for Vancouver South at two o'clock in the morning if he wants to stay.

**Mr. Anderson:** Mr. Speaker, I am amazed that a fellow member from British Columbia would interrupt a speech concerning British Columbia. I hope that he will allow me to finish the remarks I was making.

There is no question that British Columbia, the province which I am proud to come from, is a resource oriented province. There is no question, on the other side of the coin, that we know that having a devalued dollar does increase the price of goods. Not one person on the opposition side has ever brought up the point that if goods coming into this country are costing more, why buy them? Buy Canadian! The premiers of the provinces got this message. Why do you not understand it?

It may sound like a spurious point, but the consumer realizes it is to his advantage to buy Canadian if the price of goods coming in from the United States or any other country goes up. If the price of bananas goes up because of a lower Canadian dollar, maybe we should buy Okanagan apples. I do not find anything wrong with that.

I know the hon. member for Hamilton West (Mr. Alexander) would like me to wind up my speech, but I am speaking the truth. You are not forced to buy one thing or another. I would hope that one of the messages brought across Canada by myself and by other hon. members of this House is that it is time to look at where goods originate. If we buy Canadian, we create Canadian jobs. We create security for those people buying Canadian goods. I would hope for the hon. member for Hamilton West that we buy Canadian steel.

**Mr. Alexander:** I hope we get some of the pipeline.

**Mr. Anderson:** I would like members on both sides of the House to make that message clear that it is to our advantage to buy Canadian goods. Members who have brought up the fact that it is inflationary are correct if one purchases imported goods. If the price of coffee goes up because of the devalued dollar, you do have that right to choose whether you will purchase coffee or not.

I realize economics is not a strong point in the New Democratic Party. However, there is a discretionary power in our economy. With the devaluation of the dollar we have a breathing space. If we use that breathing space wisely we must try to become more competitive in our industries. The resource industries cannot continue to provide a surplus of trade balance in the Canadian economy. The breathing space is there. If we do not use it wisely we know some of the consequences that may happen.

The question was brought up earlier regarding the situation of the Canadian dollar being higher than the American dollar. I hope hon. members realize that a majority of those dollars were coming in from the United States through provincial and municipal borrowing, for example the James Bay, B.C. hydro,

### *Finance*

and other large projects. These projects were the main stimulus to an overly inflated Canadian dollar.

It is rather unique that if we borrow more from the United States our Canadian dollar would go up in value and we would be more in debt. If we borrow less from the United States, our dollar goes down. If the hon. members in the opposition would address themselves to that question, and while they are saying there is a crisis, are they basically suggesting that we should return to the artificially high Canadian dollar which was caused by provinces and municipalities borrowing in the American market? This occurred several years ago. If you do not like the dollar where it is, there is a way to get it up again.

**An hon. Member:** Change the government.

**Mr. Anderson:** One of the basic things that has destroyed confidence in the Canadian dollar and the Canadian economy is the takeover of the potash industry in Saskatchewan. That amazed the financial communities not only in the United States but throughout the world. This was an industry that was socialized and nationalized, taken over by the Saskatchewan government. The leader of the New Democratic Party who, I understand, is a graduate of the London School of Economics, surely must realize what effect that wrought on the international markets.

We had a New Democratic government in the province of British Columbia and, in the wisdom or non-wisdom of that government, the former premier decided that he would put a super royalty on minerals. This industry has not recovered yet and it will be a few years before confidence in the British Columbia market will return.

I am sure that the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Leggatt) will be rising to his feet in a few minutes, and I will listen to him with great interest. Markets do change and are affected by the actions of governments, especially when they nationalize industries or set artificially high royalties. If the hon. member for New Westminster wishes to debate that, he will have a chance to contradict the statement that actions by the NDP premier of British Columbia affected the mining industry in that province.

**Mr. Leggatt:** Absolutely correct.

**Mr. Anderson:** If he says that, Mr. Speaker, I will excerpt his statement and send it back to British Columbia because there are a lot of people in the mining industry who, I am sure, will be writing letters to him.

There is no question in most member's minds that the devalued Canadian dollar is not the cause of our problems, it is resulting from problems in our economy and is reflecting them. The devalued dollar is a barometer showing us various things, including the fact productivity is not on our side at this moment.

● (2242)

As I said, this is a breathing period, a period when we can catch up and get our house in order. It will not only require the