

S.O. 22

CONSUMER AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS**REQUEST FOR GASOLINE PRICE INVESTIGATION**

Mr. Bill Gottselig (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, the price of fuel in western Canada is too high. I call upon the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Côté) to investigate this immediately. The rapid decline in the price of crude oil has not been passed on to the consumers—only two cents per litre to date. We in Saskatchewan do not have a provincial sales tax. We have the lowest refining charge in Canada, yet fuel prices to farmers have increased in 1986.

Recently the Government of Saskatchewan introduced a royalty rebate of 4.6 cents per litre effective January 1, 1986. Nevertheless, major oil companies, including Petro-Canada and the local co-operatives, recently raised their prices by five cents per litre. I, as well as thousands of consumers in Saskatchewan, do not believe this was just a coincidence. The provincial rebate program was for primary producers, not the oil companies.

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FISHERIES**GRANTING OF CRAB FISHING LICENCES**

Mr. George Henderson (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, crab fishermen in Atlantic Canada will be setting their first traps of the season next month, but they are still in the dark about this year's management plan. There is still no decision about the number of permanent licences to be granted this year. Fishermen are waiting to hear how many designated crab zones there will be, but they have heard nothing from the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. Siddon).

● (1410)

The Minister's silence on this matter is inconveniencing the fishermen. Fishermen in Quebec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Nova Scotia are now in the process of preparing their boats and gear for the coming season. They need to know who will be fishing where, and they need that information now. The Minister must decide immediately. Crab fishermen in Atlantic Canada are waiting for an answer.

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THE PRIME MINISTER

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, more and more Canadians are becoming very disappointed with the Government which sits across the way. For example, Brian Gilbert from Calgary said of the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney): "I wouldn't vote for him again, not him personally". An anonymous Conservative MP was quoted the other day as saying: "We're in trouble with the public because of him. Many see him as too easy, too glib, too stagey". Mr. McRae from Etobicoke was reported in a newspaper recently as saying: "Then the horror stories started; the tuna business, the

family patronage, the indexation for senior citizens, the bank bail-outs. When is smiling Brian going to show some leadership?"

Finally, a backbencher from Montreal said recently: "Last election workers here voted for change, but they never got it. If they don't get it soon, this Government will go the way of the last one." As you can see, Mr. Speaker, more and more Canadians, including Conservative Members of Parliament, are very, very disappointed with the performance of their Government.

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FOOD AND DRUGS**DEMAND THAT FAST-FOOD CHAINS LIST FOOD INGREDIENTS**

Mr. A. H. Harry Brightwell (Perth): Mr. Speaker, I bring to your attention the millions of Canadians who suffer from allergies to food and additives. Allergic reactions include rashes, headaches, severe illness, and, in some cases, death.

This surely demonstrates the need for listing ingredients of foods produced by fast-food establishments. Manufacturers of prepackaged foods are required by law to list ingredients, and the Consumers Association of Canada and the Allergy Information Centre have appealed to fast-food restaurants to provide this information. Most companies provide it upon request to the head offices, but others refuse. They cite a lack of public interest and the need for confidentiality.

How can the possibility of anaphylactic shock and death within 30 minutes be ignored? The fast-food chains must be willing to see the importance of this matter, as almost two million Canadian citizens suffer in some way from the effects of allergies.

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EMPLOYMENT**JOBS CREATED IN PRAIRIE PROVINCES**

Mr. Geoff Wilson (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, the February Budget continues to assist small business in the assault on unemployment, a thrust which began with the economic statement of November, 1984. At that time the Opposition said we gave Canadians tax increases and cut-backs which would destroy hundreds of thousands of jobs.

The fact is, Mr. Speaker, that since November, 1984, some 90,000 jobs have been created in the Prairie Provinces alone through a stronger private sector. Unemployment on the Prairies varies from 8 per cent in Saskatchewan to 8.5 per cent in Alberta.

On a national basis over 580,000 new jobs have been created, and the national employment rate is under 10 per cent for the first time in years.

Now the Opposition seek to claim credit for all of this as somehow being due to their old bankrupt policies. What