

Supply

Committee, and I have great respect for the Hon. Member from Saint-Michel—Ahuntsic who sits on the other side of the House.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, I should like to add that I would never stoop to playing politics . . . But as was mentioned by the Hon. Member, when we came into office in 1984, as a government we were faced with a two billion dollar deficit. Her party's record during 22 years, from 1962 to 1984, is something to be considered by the House.

[*English*]

As I mentioned, I do not want to attack my hon. colleague because she is a very nice person, but I am attacking her politics. To be \$200 million in the hole is something. What do we do for old age pensioners? I can say that in my constituency, we have put a priority on low-rental housing, though there is not enough. However, the money does not drop from the ceiling. It has to come from the taxpayers. When we raise taxes, the taxpayers say that we are charging them too much for old people.

[*Translation*]

But, Mr. Speaker, the Progressive Conservative Party has always looked after the well-being of senior citizens. That is what I do in my riding. That is what we will go on doing. But it is no easy task, however, when there is a limited amount of money available; I shall give you an example. I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, to have to make a personal remark but take the case of my wife who went out this afternoon with my credit card. However my card is "overcharged", which means she won't spend a penny. That is what we didn't want to see and that is what we said in 1984.

[*English*]

That is what we said in 1984, that we would put sound finances in Government. We have helped the old people. The old people at home have access to every Member of Parliament, regardless of political stripe, but especially to those of Conservative stripe.

I respect the Hon. Member and I hesitate to criticize her for her political, Liberal speech. We are going ahead with Indian housing, and more announcements will be made.

Finally, where did the \$200-billion Liberal dollars go for the people the Hon. Member represents today?

[*Translation*]

Mrs. Killens: Mr. Speaker, my friend from Bonaventure—Îles-de-la-Madeleine (Mr. Gray) is right when he says we are old friends. I like to think I have quite a few friends in this House, and I think I do. However, people who know me well call me an iron hand in a velvet glove.

An Hon. Member: Yes, indeed!

Mrs. Killens: And that is because I am very firm when I believe in something. As far as my motives are concerned, I would have made the same speech if the Liberals had made

these mistakes, and I will tell you why. To me, it is a matter of justice. If my speech seemed like a partisan speech, that is not what I was trying to do, because I'm not like that. I'm a very poor politician. I'm a better administrator than a politician. What I had to say today, I happened to say it in this form. I know about housing issues thanks to the help I get from my office staff, because I am sure all Members realize we have to be knowledgeable on a number of subjects and have a lot of work to do. So I have learned a lot in the process.

I would now like to make a few comments about our Native people. Since Bill C-31 was passed, there has been a waiting list of 60,000, mostly applications from women and children who want to go back to the reserve. Since the situation is already very serious, they cannot be reintegrated and are always second on the list. We have to start with the people who are already on the reserve, who are not getting the services they should, and who have a very high mortality rate. That is where we must start, and once again, I wonder why Bill C-31 was passed without providing the tools to implement the legislation. That is why I condemn the present Government, and I can assure you I would have done the same if it had been my own Government.

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Hon. Member for Saint-Michel—Ahuntsic on her excellent speech, her thorough research and appropriate comments. If the Hon. Member on the other side wants the floor, he should go back to his seat and ask his questions in the accepted manner. If he would care to listen, I will tell him why we in the Official Opposition, why we in the Liberal Party believe that this Government should be replaced, and I will use the point made by the Hon. Member for Bonaventure—Îles-de-la-Madeleine (Mr. Gray), which was:

[*English*]

Money does not drop from the ceiling. I agree with the Hon. Member. However, why does the Government have to tax Canadians as it has since it has been in power? Do tell why there has been an increase in personal income taxes and why the income tax tables have been deindexed. Why talk about deindexing old age pensions? Why increase the tax burden on Canadians?

I have here an official document which indicates that since the Conservatives came to power, the excise tax on gasoline increased by five cents a litre. Since the Conservatives came to power, taxes paid by individuals increased by 68 per cent or \$29.3 billion. Taxes paid by corporations increased by 28 per cent or \$2 billion, and I am talking about the last Budget, yet 60,000 profitable corporations still do not pay taxes.

These Tories over there are criticizing my colleague for her point which is that the Government has indeed forgotten about affordable housing. Indeed, you people don't give a damn about housing.

When the Hon. Member gets a chance, he can answer me. Now I am asking my colleague if she does not agree with me. I