

and action. Jobs are created every spring. Quit gloating. Show us some concrete results.

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the Member quite properly asked for concrete results. This morning Statistics Canada announced that in the month of April we created the largest number of jobs in five years. The Liberal Party does not like good news for Canadians. They like cheap partisanship.

Statistics Canada announced that 201,000 jobs were created, two-thirds of them being full-time permanent jobs, since we came to office. Those are the tens and tens of thousands of jobs which we promised. Unlike the Liberals, we have delivered on our promise.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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NATIVE PEOPLES

ORIGIN OF ALLEGED CABINET DOCUMENT

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Mr. Speaker, one of the promises of the Prime Minister, which he said he would deliver, was to provide more open government. I would like to ask him, in that context, concerning a document which the whole country knows very well came out of the Deputy Prime Minister's office recently, but about which the Government has continued to be evasive and refused to answer questions, has the Prime Minister undertaken an investigation into the origins of that document? Considering that the document refers to the fact that the Prime Minister was consulted on its contents, will he tell the House in a straightforward, open manner, that, indeed, this document was prepared in the office of the Deputy Prime Minister?

● (1125)

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have told my hon. friend, and I think he will remember, that the document to which he refers is one which I have never seen myself. It has never been brought to my attention. I do not deny the possibility of task forces or study groups doing work in examining government programs. But in regard to native peoples we set out very, very clearly that, notwithstanding recommendations which may or may not come forward from various study groups, the Cabinet will decide at an appropriate time what the policy will be, and that we shall never do anything which is unhelpful to our native and aboriginal peoples.

REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ORIGIN

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Mr. Speaker, once again the Prime Minister continues his attempt to treat the proceedings of this House as some kind of charade. He knows, and the whole country knows, that he did not answer the question. I want to ask him again will he live up to what he

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promised during the summer election campaign on the question of open government. He will have consulted with his Deputy Prime Minister during the last few days, and with the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Minister of National Health and Welfare, all of whose Departments endorse the recommendations which are outlined in this report. Will he now, to use an old phrase, "come clean" with the House of Commons and acknowledge that this document was produced by the Deputy Prime Minister?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I know it is hard for the Hon. Member to get over his own self-inflicted sanctimony. I know it is. But I have told him point-blank that I have never seen this document. It has not come to Cabinet, and if and when Cabinet is seized of it and makes a decision, we will tell you in the House. Then it will be government policy.

Mr. Broadbent: Mr. Speaker, I say to the Prime Minister that he is the last person to talk about being sanctimonious. It was he who made himself the white knight on the question of patronage, and then reversed everything he promised once he took office.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: What about Gerry Caplan? He used to work for you.

Mr. Broadbent: Go swallow your red tie.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I always put it in front of a bull.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Stay cool, Ed.

Mr. Broadbent: If we can get some order, Mr. Speaker, I'll ask the question.

GOVERNMENT POLICY

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): In this document there are two key elements; first, a whole range of changes in native people's programs involving massive cut-backs and, second, something which pertains directly to the budgetary process which leads us to believe we are going to have one budget on May 23 and the real budget after. I refer to the fact that this document said that there are going to be cut-backs in native programs announced after the Budget, but not in the Budget. Will the Prime Minister acknowledge that the real reason the Government doesn't want to acknowledge the existence of the document is because the kind of duplicity which is involved in native people's programs is going to be carried over into virtually every program affecting every Department in the Government?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend does himself and the House a grave disservice by that kind of unbecoming attitude. We have indicated that there will be a Budget. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and I have made formal statements in the House outlining the principles which will govern our conduct in regard to our native peoples. We were