The Address-Mr. Brisco

company laid off 50 employees and re-submitted an amended application to FIRA stating it was going to hire 50 employees. You can imagine what happened. The application was approved and the shift that was laid off was hired again. Does that strike you as responsibility?

We are also going to be asked to extend the powers of Parliament. The hon, member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath), now the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, once remarked that parliamentarians at one time did have power in this House to take the kind of actions that Canadians deserved, to take positive steps and to assume responsibility. That power disappeared and we know when that happened. What did we get in place of that power? We got a raise in pay. Everyone got a raise in pay in the hope that that would keep members happy and quiet. It was felt members would not bellyache after they had received an increase in their salaries. The government then just took away parliamentary powers. What a disastrous trade-off that was.

Another concern that is touched on in the Speech from the Throne relates to spending restraint. During the last election campaign I said on more than one platform that the people should elect the party which promises that it will endorse and implement the recommendations of the Lambert commission and the recommendations of Auditors General. Did we hear members of the opposition say they supported this? With their kind of policies and their expansion of the bureaucracy how could they support economic accountability and efficiency? How could these people support that? Is the record of the last 16 years any evidence that they could support it?

The Auditor General makes certain recommendations in his report to members of the House, but who hoots, hollers, jeers and denies the whole thing? I suggest it is those members across the way. If a party promised no other thing to Canadians but that it would implement recommendations of economy, efficiency and accountability, it should be elected by the people of Canada. They have done that and we will fulfil that promise. Before the end of two years we will terminate that period we have seen from the other side of monetary madness and financial irresponsibility.

Work is already under way to restore accountability to the people who pay the bills; the people in the galleries, the people out there across this nation, more particularly the people of Kootenay West who had enough perception, in spite of the fact that they elected a couple of socialists provincially, to know that a socialist federally is not going to serve their purposes.

Mr. Clark: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if I might have the consent of the House to revert to the tabling of documents.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is there unanimous consent to allow the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Clark) to revert to the tabling of documents for the purpose of presenting a report?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[Mr. Brisco.]

• (1700)

PETRO-CANADA

TABLING OF TASK FORCE REPORT

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 41(2) I wish to table, in both official languages, copies of the report of the Task Force on Petro-Canada.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Fretz for an address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session, and the amendment thereto (Mr. Trudeau) (p. 37).

Mr. Jesse Flis (Parkdale-High Park): Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a Miss Jasmine Hubjer in the gallery.

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Flis: I am sorry, I am learning the rules, as you know, Mr. Speaker. The young student, whose teachers are on strike in Peel County, is here in this classroom to get a first-hand education.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Flis: In this, my first speech as the representative for Parkdale-High Park, I would like to extend my congratulations to the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Jerome) on his reappointment as Speaker of this House of Commons. The wisdom of the members here in showing this confidence in him has been demonstrated amply in the past, as it will continue to be in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I extend similar congratulations to you as the Deputy Speaker. Congratulations are also in order to the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Clark), and I am very honoured that he is here in person to hear my maiden speech. Though the criticism from this side of the House will oftentimes be pointed and harsh, I need not remind him that we share the ultimate objective as members of this House of Commons which will guide us in our deliberations, that being the good government of this nation.

Parkdale-High Park is situated in the west end of Toronto and was created out of two federal constituencies, High Park-Humber Valley and Parkdale. Our constituency houses the Canadian National Exhibition, Ontario Place, Sunnyside Swimming Pavilion for which we hope the new government will give us some funds to restore its historical nature, and the famous High Park.

For my own part, I very much identify with the mosaic concept of Canada as it is often described by our leader, the right hon. member for Mount Royal (Mr. Trudeau). Boasting more than two dozen identifiable ethnic strains. Parkdale-