

Oral Questions

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The New Brunswick Masonic Charities and Housing Company is an offshoot of the Grand Lodge of Free Masons, which was formed specifically with the role of providing low-cost housing for senior citizens. I am delighted to see this kind of co-operation between the federal, provincial and non-profit organizations.

I call upon Canadians to get involved in the field of non-profit housing because working together we can improve the quality of housing for all Canadians.

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FISHERIES**EFFECT OF NEW REGULATIONS IN B.C.**

Hon. Roger E. Simmons (Burin—St. George's): Mr. Speaker, the new fish-landing regulations in British Columbia are the latest example of the Government's rushing headlong to satisfy, to pacify, to please its American masters at whatever the cost. We saw the same type of pandering on the Free Trade Agreement. We saw it in a similar vein between Canada and France in relation to Newfoundland a couple of weeks ago.

At least the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Siddon) has been consistent this time. He is socking it to B.C. the same as he socked it to Newfoundland the first time around. The Fish Council of B.C., the Native Brotherhood, and at least one of the unions find this completely unacceptable. It is no wonder. It gives complete and unfettered access to unprocessed fish by the Americans—not at all what the Government promised to deliver.

It is the latest example of how the Government has caved in to the Americans one more time.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE ECONOMY**NATIONAL DEFICIT—ELECTION CAMPAIGN PROMISES**

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I just caught the Prime Minister's attention. He was doing a head count.

My question is on a serious note. It is addressed to the Minister of Finance. On November 10, 11 days before the last election, the Minister of Finance had this to say: "Conservatives have made spending commitments—"—not promises but spending commitments—"in those reserves, we have sufficient money to handle the announcements."

Those announcements amounted to \$17 billion. Eleven days before the election the Minister of Finance said that he had sufficient financial reserves to cover those announcements. Then suddenly after the election, and as he comes up to his Budget, he says that we have a debt crisis in Canada.

That is nothing of course compared to the Prime Minister. Late during the campaign he said: "We have dealt with the deficit."

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): "You've got promises, all are within Michael Wilson's fiscal framework. Every nickel has been accounted for."

Every nickel has been accounted for. What a phoney—what a pair of phoneys!

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): What kind of deceitful scam was the Minister practising at the expense of the Canadian taxpayer, the Canadian electorate, when he was so free with his vocabulary during the election campaign?

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that in the lead-up to that same campaign we had 40 promises, which added up to some \$24 billion from that Party.