

nasty, that is up to him. That is not our policy on this side of the House. The statistics are evident. Recovery is here and is well under way.

REQUEST FOR SYSTEM OF TAX CREDITS TO COMBAT YOUTH
UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr. Doug Lewis (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, my question is also directed to the Minister of State for Finance. The Bank of Nova Scotia has charged that the economic outlook for Canada accompanying the Budget is too optimistic. That will mean an even higher unemployment rate than the Finance Minister has anticipated and predicted. Under those circumstances, will the Government consider a crash program designed to reduce unemployment? Specifically, will the Government consider introducing a system of tax credits designed to help young people obtain their first steady jobs?

Hon. Roy MacLaren (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member opposite selects one forecast to substantiate his gloomy view of the Canadian economy. If he will look at any number of indicators, he will find that in fact there is every expectation for further growth during 1984.

With regard to his suggestion that the Government should somehow offer tax incentives to reduce youth unemployment, he will be aware of the range of programs that the Government has already put in place with regard to employment and training for young people.

I do not know whether the Member opposite is advocating higher deficit spending on the part of the Government. We on this side of the House believe that we have achieved a real balance between direct spending in the public sector to reduce youth unemployment and help retraining, and spending in the private sector. Equally, we have put in place a number of tax incentives and other measures to assist the private sector to create the jobs for young people where the jobs really can be created, which is in the private sector.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I would remind the Minister that the Government has achieved an unemployment rate of 11 per cent, and that is unacceptable.

STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO FORMER ADVISER TO PRIME
MINISTER

Mr. Doug Lewis (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, I would like to refer the Minister to another expert. In an article written after the Budget, Jim Coutts, a former adviser to the Prime Minister, argued for a fundamental change in our approach to job creation, not just an incremental increase in our programs. He calls the Finance Minister's unemployment projections of over 10 per cent unacceptable. I would ask the Minister what his reaction to that criticism would be, and if the Minister does agree that we need a fundamental change in our approach to job creation.

Hon. Roy MacLaren (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, I do not agree that we need a fundamental change in

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our approach to job creation. Last April, we did put in place major programs to reduce youth unemployment, including a massive retraining program. We have also offered incentives to the private sector which, as I say, we are convinced will sustain and enhance the economic recovery and from which real jobs will come.

As for the views of Mr. Coutts, the Hon. Member no doubt would want to address himself directly to Mr. Coutts, but I am sure that he equally would want to recognize the programs this Government has put in place which account in part for the high level of deficit financing and which we on this side of the House have recognized as essential during this period of economic recovery. We are confident that those dual programs of public and private sector incentives will bring down the rate of unemployment, as they have already in the past months, in Canada.

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NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS

CRUISE MISSILE TESTING—CANCELLATION REQUEST

Ms. Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Prime Minister I will direct my question to the Deputy Prime Minister. As the Deputy Prime Minister knows, women have been and are today in the forefront of the disarmament and peace movement in Canada and elsewhere. He will recall that it was Sweden's Alva Myrdal who won the Nobel peace prize in 1982, and that it has been women in Canada, led over the decades by the Voice of Women, who have been in the forefront of the struggle to end the nuclear arms race. As a tribute to Canadian women, and women everywhere, will the Deputy Prime Minister, on this first day of International Women's Week, announce on behalf of the Prime Minister the one thing we all want to hear—no Cruise missile testing tomorrow?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I think that the Hon. Member is asking for a very tall order by requesting that we abrogate a formal agreement we have made with the United States on 24 hours' notice. We have already made that decision and I do not think that her request at this stage is one that even she would think reasonable.

Ms. Jewett: Mr. Speaker, I guess the Deputy Prime Minister does not know that it is International Women's Week. I thought that he at least might make some reference to that. Perhaps he will do better in his answer to my supplementary question.

● (1500)

REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT PENDING COURT DECISION

Ms. Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the question of testing the Cruise is before the courts and that a decision still has to be rendered on the constitutionality of the testing, would the