

*S. O. 31*

Not only did we inherit a debt of \$200 billion, plus the interest that was accumulating, but we also inherited a \$16 billion program for which there was no money.

Over the number of years this government has been in power we have looked at ways of reducing or eliminating the \$16 billion in programs for which there was no money.

After that was done, we then looked at ways and means that we could continue to support the people of Canada with additional programs that this government felt were necessary.

Over the last few years we have looked at unemployment insurance and a number of issues to help the people who are temporarily unemployed. We have looked for ways and means whereby we could put into place responsible agencies and groups.

We have looked at how we can help small business and large business to provide jobs for the people of Canada.

I feel this budget does give a good economic stable basis for the future and this will help all Canadians.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** It being two o'clock, the House will now proceed to Statements pursuant to Standing Order 31.

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## STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[*Translation*]

### TRIBUTE TO NATIVE WOMEN

**Mrs. Suzanne Duplessis (Louis-Hébert):** Mr. Speaker, this year Health and Welfare Canada celebrated International Women's Day by paying tribute to eight native women leaders who were proposed by native women's associations and department officials.

On March 6, 1992, Health and Welfare Canada awarded certificates of merit to Bibiane Courtois, Joanne Francis, Joan Glode, Martha Greig, Jenny Margetts, who unfortunately is now deceased, Jacquelyne McPherson, Gail Stacey-Moore and Mary Sillett, in recognition of their contribution to better health and social conditions for Canadian women, their families and communities.

[*English*]

### THE LATE MENACHEM BEGIN

**Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I rise to note the passing of His Excellency Menachem Begin.

A pioneer of the state of Israel who rose to be its prime minister, his leadership earned the Nobel Peace Prize for securing peace along one of Israel's borders. In the event he showed flexibility and willingness to compromise for peace, which in a better world would have brought peace with all Israel's neighbours. He was a great man.

I had the pleasure and honour of receiving Mr. Begin during several of his visits to Canada, once as head of government, and of being received by him in Israel. He admired this blessed country of Canada, not least our good fortune to live so far from theatres of war.

He and his beloved wife Aliza knew little peace in life. From prison and torture in Europe they fled to Palestine with a clear Zionist vision of Israel, and they struggled to build it.

Little Israel, which in total is about the size of Lake Ontario, has produced more than its share of leaders of world stature. Menachem Begin will always be remembered as one.

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### THE ENVIRONMENT

**Mr. John A. MacDougall (Timiskaming):** Mr. Speaker, I am upset with the way the environmentalists like the International Fund for Animal Welfare have begun again to misrepresent the facts about the sealing industry and the Newfoundland fishermen.

This is much like the situation back home. Wolves and foxes in Timiskaming have become troublesome to area farmers and tourist operators. Green Peace's unrealistic solution to this threat is to neuter the animals and release them. I tell Green Peace this does nothing for the wolves' appetites.

It is just like Green Peace's solution to Newfoundland's cod stocks and the abundance of seals off the east coast. It is shameful and I say that ignorant environmentalists have done enough damage. They know nothing about resource management. They do not accept that man can use its resources.