

*Oral Questions*

roughly \$33 billion will be spent on marine platforms, with about \$1.3 billion being spent next year and \$1.8 billion the following year? In this House the minister has consistently promised to put forward a coherent shipbuilding policy for Canadians. On July 8, 1980, he promised that we would have the policy by early fall; he promised it again on July 15; his parliamentary secretary has promised it, and the Prime Minister has promised it. Now it is the late fall of 1981. Where is the shipbuilding policy so that Canadians can capture the benefits from the shipbuilding that will go on in this country?

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Madam Speaker, I said that before the government would announce a new policy for the shipbuilding and ship repair industry we would carry out a wide-ranging consultation with the industry, its workers, and potential users of ships. This consultative process is just being completed. I hope to receive the report from the chairman of our interdepartmental working group very soon and I will use that as a basis for discussion in cabinet with a view to bringing forward the policy that my hon. friend has requested.

**Mr. Skelly:** Madam Speaker we have heard two ministers stand up today with the old pie in the sky theory. There is going to be pie in the sky when they die!

● (1440)

## ORDERS PLACED IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

**Mr. Ray Skelly (Comox-Powell River):** In the last nine months of this year, \$700 million worth of Canadian ships has been contracted for building in foreign countries such as Japan, the United States, and Europe. When is the minister going to get his butt in gear and ensure that—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Skelly:**—these jobs will be created in Canada? We cannot afford this kind of problem any more. Therefore, when will he stop creating jobs in Japan, in Europe and the United States, and start creating employment for Canadians?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Madam Speaker, my hon. friend may not know this, but yesterday, in Saint John, New Brunswick, I announced federal government support of some \$12 million to enable the expansion of the Saint John Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Company so that that company could go, at one and the same time, into the shipbuilding, ship repair and offshore equipment field, something which will bring some 400 new jobs to the workers of that area. A few weeks earlier, I was in Vancouver where I took part in the ceremony at the Burrard yard with respect to the opening of a new floating drydock which will bring hundreds of new jobs in the ship repair field to workers in that area.

Also, the federal government assistance to the Panamax project in Halifax which will also bring hundreds of new jobs

to that area. Finally, I might add that on August 27 I announced the federal government's new program to assure Canadian workers a full and fair opportunity with respect to taking part in the megaprojects, including offshore equipment. This program is in operation, so we are not waiting for the shipbuilding policy. We are operating now to carry on the type of development my hon. friend has been talking about.

**Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton):** You just torpedoed yourself.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

## NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION

INQUIRY WHETHER POLICY RELATED TO GREENBELT IN OTTAWA-CARLETON HAS BEEN MODIFIED

**Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa-Vanier):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Public Works who is responsible for the National Capital Commission. Last week, Ottawa newspapers headlined that the NCC was prepared to give up NCC land located in the Greenbelt, the untouchable zone surrounding the national capital, for the purpose of promoting the building of a microelectronics centre in the Ottawa-Carleton region. Could the minister tell us whether this transaction is to be interpreted as a change in the NCC's policy with respect to the Greenbelt in Ottawa-Carleton, and if so, when and by whom the details of this transaction will be officially announced?

[English]

**Hon. Paul J. Cosgrove (Minister of Public Works):** Madam Speaker, I thank the hon. member for his interest in this subject, and congratulate him on his continuing interest in matters affecting the National Capital Commission and the area, generally speaking. I confirm that I have discussed the subject which he has raised with the chairman of the National Capital Commission. He has indicated to me that the commission has not changed its policy vis-à-vis the Greenbelt, that there is opportunity to work with the province, I understand, through its BILD program, and other municipalities and the private sector. Such a program, under proper conditions, would fall within the existing policy and plans of the commission with respect to the Greenbelt.

\* \* \*

## EDUCATION

MINISTER'S POSITION ON GOVERNMENT POLICY

**Mr. Blaine A. Thacker (Lethbridge-Foothills):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State, who knows that there are some 738,000 young Canadians in our colleges and universities and that they represent the real, true future for the country. He also knows that the cost of post-secondary education is some \$5 billion, of which the taxpayers allocate \$2 billion through this Parliament, and some \$3