

*Oral Questions*

● (1415)

[English]

**ATOMIC ENERGY OF CANADA LIMITED**

## EFFECT OF GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE CUTS

**Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke):** Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister of Canada (Mr. Mulroney) totally misled the employees of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and all industries related thereto during the last election campaign.

The present Prime Minister promised in 1984 not only to maintain the level of research that was being done by Atomic Energy of Canada Limited but to consider even more advanced research. After he gained power the first devastating act which the Prime Minister and his Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) performed was to cut the budget of Atomic Energy by 50 per cent, or \$100 million, and to lift an additional \$70 million out of the reserves of the company.

To date they have collected the \$70 million reserve fund and cut \$60 million of the \$100 million cut from AECL.

Next year this Government, which talks about R and D in rhetorical terms only, will be cutting an additional \$25 million out of R and D, and the following year it will be cutting an additional \$15 million out of Atomic Energy.

I call upon the Government to throw its rhetoric aside and start supporting an industry which has saved the country billions of dollars over the last 40 years because of its new developments in energy, in medical research, in many areas of high technology, and in a whole host of offshoots from an industry which has been a tremendous asset to many areas of human life—

**Mr. Speaker:** I regret to interrupt the Hon. Member but his time has expired.

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**AGRICULTURE**

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF ADDITIONAL FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO FARMERS

**Mr. Bill Gottselig (Moose Jaw):** Mr. Speaker, the Special Canadian Grains Program announced yesterday by the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) is good news for all Canadian farmers. The injection of \$1.1 billion of cash, the extension of the fuel tax rebates, further funding for the Farm Credit Corporation in the amount of \$100 million per year for each of the next three years, provision for a write-off of one half of the Western Grain Stabilization Fund deficit, a recognition of the necessity to deal with the serious problem of soil degradation through PFRA programs, and the Farm Debt Review Boards receiving \$40 million to keep them operating until 1991,

certainly give new meaning to the old adage that actions speak louder than words.

What a change, Mr. Speaker, to have a Prime Minister who says "the Government will stand by farmers and their families when they are hurting".

We recall only too well the response of a former Prime Minister who said "why should I sell your wheat?" and responded with an obscene gesture.

The response of the farm community indicates how well received this new program is where it really counts, in the farm kitchens and coffee shops across Canada.

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[Translation]

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

## SITUATION IN HAITI—GOVERNMENT OBLIGATION TO TAKE STRONG AND CLEAR POSITION

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill):** Mr. Speaker, like all Canadians, we in the New Democratic Party were shocked by recent events in Haiti. We were also disappointed in the Canadian Government's weak response to this serious situation.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that the National Council of General Namphy's government has lost all legitimacy in Haiti and that the new provisional electoral council appointed by General Namphy is unconstitutional.

This is a crisis situation, and the Government of Canada should take a clear and strong stand. A diplomatic protest note is not enough. The Government must cut its aid to Haiti and stop deporting Haitian refugees. At the international level, the Government must take a clear stand against General Namphy's regime and make strong representations at the United Nations and elsewhere to bring about strong and effective international pressure on General Namphy's regime to ensure a stable situation for a proper and legitimate election.

**ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**

[Translation]

**TRADE**

## ARTICLE 1904.2 OF FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—PRIME MINISTER'S POSITION—REQUEST FOR EXPLANATION

**Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Prime Minister, I will direct my question—