

Oral Questions

the expenditure of the \$250 million as announced by the Minister of Finance some months ago.

Mr. Broadbent: Madam Speaker, the Prime Minister should do a better job of his homework.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Broadbent: I have in my hand a press release, released by the three Ministers, who underlined the fact that the federal Government alone, without the participation of the Government of Quebec, is going ahead with these initiatives. Therefore he cannot blame the Government of Quebec for the failure this time.

REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT ACT TO PROVIDE JOBS

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): I would like to ask a supplementary question of the Prime Minister. I repeat that there are Canadians who are suffering. Considering the fact that the Member for the region, the Hon. Member for Gaspé, has said that when he raises this matter in caucus "Ministers turn a deaf ear", why, in the face of this suffering, in the face of the fact that the Government is committed to spending money in the area, does the Government not get on with the job and provide jobs for those who need them?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, with respect, the Hon. Member did not get the gist of my previous answer. It is true that we want to spend the money ourselves. It would be better if we spent it in co-operation with the Province of Quebec, as we have in other Provinces, where each Government spends its money in areas within its jurisdiction, but where they do it after joint planning. That has not proved possible. Therefore, we will go ahead without any joint planning.

Insofar as the rest of his questions is concerned, I did admit that there were some delays, but I also said that we will be opening the office in Rimouski within a few days.

TIMING OF JOB-CREATION PROJECTS

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Madam Speaker, I would direct my question either to the Prime Minister or to the Minister responsible for Development, or to the Minister for Finance, who is responsible for patronage in Quebec. I do not care who answers, but I would like to ask the Prime Minister, particularly, to answer.

One Member of the Liberal caucus has said that some \$10 million which has been approved for tourism, which would provide many jobs now, will not be spent until next spring. Would the Prime Minister confirm that the sense of timing about these projects has absolutely nothing to do with the human and economic need but has everything to do with the forthcoming federal election?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, the difference between our Party and the New Democratic Party is that—

Mr. Andre: It's hard to see.

Mr. Trudeau:—when we allocate funds, we raise taxes in order that the money can be obtained and then we spend it. The New Democratic Party always comes along after we have announced our programs and says it would have done it, except it would have done it yesterday, with more money. That is the only difference.

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● (1430)

THE CONSTITUTION

SENATE PASSAGE OF ACCORD ON ABORIGINAL RIGHTS

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane-Superior): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. The Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada are very patiently waiting for final passage of the constitutional Accord, which is the first amendment to our new Constitution. That passage has been delayed in the Senate, and the problem in the other place has been compounded by a thoughtless remark by the vice-chairman of the Senate Committee on Aboriginal Affairs, leading the Assembly of First Nations to cancel their appearance before that committee. Will the Prime Minister tell the House whether he has been advised by the Government Leader in the Senate as to just how much longer their sober second thought will take?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, as far as the timing is concerned I am advised that the report will be brought in tomorrow or the next day of this week. Therefore we should not have to wait long for that report.

The committee has done very good work. It is true that one Senator made some unfortunate remarks which were condemned by Ministers on this side, but that is a matter for the Leader of the Opposition to settle within his own caucus. The Senator is not a member of our caucus, as the Member knows.

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EMPLOYMENT

ECONOMIC COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION ON ESTABLISHMENT OF TAX CREDIT

Hon. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Madam Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance dealing with the Economic Council of Canada Report. The Council goes on to repeat its recommendation for an employment tax credit which the Minister, for some reason, continues to ignore. Council members support their repeated recommendation by saying: