

Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, we announced four projects that will create 150 jobs in the Hon. Member's own riding.

GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Hon. Jean Lapierre (Shefford):** Mr. Speaker, some people say the Minister does not know what is happening in his own department, and I think he should realize that yesterday, he announced projects that had been announced previously. It was just a rehash of what we already knew, and *La Voix de L'Est* said as much this morning. I would like to ask the Minister why, when he knows there is not a cent left in his department's coffers, he keeps telling business people that there is money when his employees say there is not. Why does the Minister not admit to his failure, why does he not admit that he has lost control over his department and why does he not resign?

**Hon. Michel Côté (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister responsible for Industry, Science and Technology):** Mr. Speaker, what the Hon. Member just said is patently false, and I emphatically deny what he said. I simply want to remind Hon. Members that we examine projects as they are submitted, but because of the improved economic situation due to the new-found confidence of Canadian business people and especially Quebecers, we are now faced with increased demand, for the simple reason that we have introduced programs that respond to the expectations of Quebec and Canadian entrepreneurs. And that is why we have been able to create 860,000 jobs since January 1984.

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[English]

FARM CREDIT CORPORATION

INITIATION OF FORECLOSURES

**Mr. Bill Gottselig (Moose Jaw):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. I have had several cases drawn to my attention regarding individuals in negotiations on mortgage arrears with the Farm Credit Corporation. Since the moratorium was lifted these ongoing negotiations have been stopped by officials of the Farm Credit Corporation and letters have gone out initiating foreclosures under Section 22. Is the Minister aware of this? Keeping in mind that individual cases must still be reviewed by a farm debt review board, is he aware of the aggressive attitude now being shown by field and office staff of the Farm Credit Corporation?

**Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, the fact of the matter is that, no, I have not heard of the so-called aggressive attitude in the Farm Credit Corporation. If that is the case it would certainly be a very sharp departure from the normal humanitarian and compassionate approaches that have been used by the Farm Credit Corporation in the past.

Oral Questions

I take the Hon. Member's representations very seriously and I want to have a meeting with him after Question Period to discuss this very matter.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Yukon.

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

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FISHERIES

YUKON SALMON FISHERY

**Ms. Audrey McLaughlin (Yukon):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans. As the Minister knows Yukoners are being ripped off by the Canada-U.S. Pacific Salmon Treaty. Some 50 per cent of chinook salmon are spawned in the Yukon but 93 per cent are taken by Alaskans and only 7 per cent by Canadians, in this case Yukoners.

Despite ongoing talks between Canada and the United States, Yukon continues to be sold up the river. On Friday last the Minister closed the fishery in Yukon without notice. Does the Minister not think that it is high time to pursue aggressively our rightful ownership of this resource?

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

**Hon. Thomas Siddon (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans):** Mr. Speaker, I compliment the Hon. Member for Yukon on her first and, I think, very thoughtfully put question in the House this afternoon.

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

**Mr. Siddon:** It is true that since the successful conclusion of the Pacific Salmon Treaty—and I do not know if I am permitted to acknowledge that it was in your time of office, Mr. Speaker—

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

● (1500)

**Mr. Siddon:** —we have been attempting to negotiate a successful annex to the Pacific Salmon Treaty which would account for the fact that the majority of the Yukon River chinook stocks which are harvested by Alaskan based fishermen are born in Canadian waters.

We are very disturbed that in the present year the American fishery within Alaska is severely overtaxing this resource and fishing far in excess of the normal quotas set within the Alaskan fishery. For that reason I intend to be in consultation with my colleague, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, to seek a way of making a strong, formal statement of our concerns to the U.S. Government.