

S. O. 31

Mr. Speaker, if you were a good CN president last year, you get an \$87,000 Christmas bonus this year to top up your measly \$365,000 a year salary. If you have been a bad boy this year, oh, well, not to worry because you will only be judged next year for what you did last year in order to get a bonus this year, and the year after that, of course.

Mr. Speaker, that should clear it all up. By the way, is this not the year of the pig? No matter how you cut it, if you are a Tory bigwig, you can always agree with the tire salesman who once said that it has been a very "Good-year", but if you are an ordinary taxpayer or government employee, every Tory year is a bad year.

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AIDS AWARENESS WEEK

Mr. Bruce Halliday (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, this is AIDS Awareness Week. Since there is as yet no cure or vaccine for HIV infection, education and prevention programs remain the most effective tools in preventing the spread of the disease.

Community groups are fundamental to fighting AIDS, as they provide preventive education programs and are key players in the provision of care and support to those who are HIV infected.

The many challenges that Canadian society faces concerning AIDS will be brought to the attention of all citizens and all levels of government by the many community-based organizations.

This week, Mr. Speaker, represents an opportunity for us to show our support in the battle against HIV infection and AIDS. I urge all members to participate in the many activities planned for this week.

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[Translation]

SPECIAL JOINT COMMITTEE FOR A RENEWED CANADA

Mr. Gilles Duceppe (Laurier—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, the Special Joint Committee on the Future of Canada began its work yesterday. Before that, we had the Charest Report, the Beaudoin-Edwards Committee

and the Spicer Commission, better known as the "Spicer circus".

It seems less serious to us than commissions like those chaired by Fulton-Favreau and Pepin-Robarts. We should call it "the remake of the Spicer Circus", something like *Rocky I, II, III, IV*.

The Bélanger-Campeau Commission would be a more appropriate model, according to Liberal André Ouellet. Canadians deserve better, Mr. Speaker. Indeed, it would be preferable to have one-to-one discussions between Quebec and Canada once Quebec has held its referendum. We would benefit from following the European Economic Community, Mr. Speaker, which, remember, is an economic organization of sovereign countries.

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[English]

GOVERNMENT OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Mr. Greg Thompson (Carleton—Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, Premier McKenna of New Brunswick announced the make-up of his new executive council. Responding to the need to reduce government as expressed by the people of New Brunswick, the premier reduced his cabinet from 24 members to 18, a 25 per cent reduction.

This, along with mergers and streamlining of government departments, will save the taxpayers of New Brunswick an estimated \$3 million to \$5 million a year. The number of women in ministerial positions has also risen to five, the highest in the history of the province. Mrs. Shirley Dyshart will become the first woman Speaker of the New Brunswick legislature.

I congratulate the premier and all members of his new government, particularly those from my federal riding: Mrs. Ann Breault, a new addition to the cabinet who becomes Minister of Income Assistance; Sheldon Lee who retains his position as transportation minister; and Bruce Smith who becomes our new Solicitor General.

I along with my colleagues in this House look forward to working with the Government of New Brunswick in making a better New Brunswick, indeed a better Canada.