

about how often I should go to my riding. I will take advice from my constituents on that point.

Mr. Hawkes: I wish the Deputy Prime Minister had the courage to put that to an election test. Maybe his constituents have a message for him.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Jim Hawkes (Calgary West): The first item, Madam Speaker, on this list of tasks for the Royal Commission is "trends in labour market requirement and conditions". A committee of this House on which I served for 14 months prepared a massive report on labour market conditions and training. As Minister of Finance, he did not implement a single recommendation in that report after we spent hours and thousands of the taxpayers' dollars on it.

I wonder if the Deputy Prime Minister could at least change the terms of reference for this ivory-tower commission, pull that file off the shelf and get some action started today for Canadians, in the field of jobs, training, and things they need. Can the Minister do that?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs): Madam Speaker, I think the Hon. Member should admit that action has already been taken on major aspects of the report to which he referred in his question.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF LORD PRIVY SEAL OF GREAT BRITAIN, BARONESS YOUNG

Madam Speaker: I would like to draw the attention of the House to the presence in our gallery of the Right Hon. the Baroness Young, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Lords of Great Britain.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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THE ECONOMY

REQUEST FOR EARLY INTRODUCTION OF PROGRAM ANNOUNCED BY PRIME MINISTER

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Madam Speaker, I have a question for the Deputy Prime Minister. On the weekend we learned that Canada has the highest level of unemployment since 1936. We also learned from the Prime Minister on Friday night, in his speech to the Liberal Party, that the Government has now a five-point national economic recovery program which it will not bring in until sometime in the new year. We have in real numbers over a million and a half unemployed now. We are going to lose many thousands in

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terms of jobs, in addition, before Christmas. If the Government has a program, why, in heaven's name does it not bring it in now instead of waiting for another two months?

• (1425)

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs): Madam Speaker, may I read a couple of paragraphs from that excellent speech—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. MacEachen: —made by the Prime Minister at the outstanding convention held in Ottawa on the weekend.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. MacEachen: I wish the Hon. Member, and especially the Leader of the Opposition, had tuned in to the convention to see how political conventions are operated.

Mr. Broadbent: I went to another comedy instead.

Mr. MacEachen: The Hon. Member asked about the Prime Minister's program for economic recovery. This is what the Prime Minister said:

We will build upon the success of six and five. We will build upon the new directions forecast by Marc Lalonde's economic statement. We will build upon this convention. And with that legacy, we will present to the Canadian people a new program for economic recovery.

REASONS FOR DELAY IN INTRODUCTION

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Madam Speaker, that was almost as boring as when we heard the original from the Prime Minister. Is the Minister telling us there really is no new program, that what the Prime Minister and his wonderful staff hoked up was simply a regurgitation of what we already had presented to us in this Parliament and nothing new is forthcoming? Or, if there is something new, I ask my first question again: why does the Government not bring it in now?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs): Madam Speaker, I think the next paragraph—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. MacEachen: —will provide the answer to the Hon. Member's question. Madam Speaker, the Prime Minister went on to say:

The details of that program are being worked upon and the process of consultation is going forward. But our direction is clear. To restore economic growth without inflation, we will move in five strategic areas:

First, we will put in place a national program to rebuild our communities, restore our infrastructure, and renew our industrial strength. Right across Canada—in every region, in every city, in every village, there are roads to be built, sewers to be constructed, community projects to be advanced, ports to be deepened, or railway tracks to be laid.

That, Madam Speaker, is the first area of strategic advance planning which the Government is now undertaking.