

Oral Questions

it will take to prevent the dismantling of that whole sector in Quebec?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, we intend to continue the sustained efforts which we have made since taking office and which have resulted in the creation of about 9,000 new jobs in Quebec every month, as compared with the 673 jobs created monthly during the four and a half years of the previous administration.

Our performance has been impressive, but with respect to the question raised by my colleague, I intend to meet with the Premier of Quebec in the near future and hold further talks about this important matter.

INQUIRY IF PRIME MINISTER WILL MEET REPRESENTATIVES OF
PÉTROCHIMIE ACTION

Hon. Jean Lapierre (Shefford): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. As the Prime Minister is undoubtedly aware, the inaction of his Government has led to the establishment of a common front in Montreal yesterday—it is called Pétrochimie Action—and this group is expected in Ottawa tomorrow. I want to ask the Prime Minister if his generosity and sense of responsibility will be strong enough to prompt him to meet with those people who will be here tomorrow to share their concerns and disarray with him. It is five minutes to midnight for those workers, Mr. Prime Minister, and their children are looking forward to Christmas. Will he have the generosity to meet with them?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): When those workers do get here, Mr. Speaker, I hope my friend will remind them of two things: one, the new Government's first move was to set aside several million dollars to help Petromont, while at the same time the outgoing Liberal Government was telling Petromont workers: No, it is over, not a nickel. That is what you did for Petromont and those workers will certainly remember that. You in the Liberal Party of Quebec are all hypocrites!

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Order, both sides.

* * *

[Translation]

CROWN CORPORATIONS

INQUIRY IF CANADAIR WILL STILL BE OWNED BY CANADIANS

Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. Everyone was delighted to hear the announcement by the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion—my question is directed to the Prime Minister—that, despite the Montreal Urban Community's plan to turn Canadair's facilities into a housing develop-

ment, Canadair will remain in Montreal. However, since the Minister also announced that Canadair will be sold, could the Prime Minister give the House the assurance that Canadair will remain in Canadian hands and not be sold to foreign interests?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Leader of the New Democratic Party who is doing his best to make people panic, raised a non-issue when he used a document produced by a municipal body in Quebec to draw some very definitive conclusions with respect to Canadair. Well, for years the Government of Quebec printed maps that showed Labrador as part of Quebec. But it didn't change a thing. It didn't make Labrador part of Quebec! And when the Leader of the New Democratic Party produces a document that says a municipal body in Montreal is going to close down Canadair, that is just as far from the truth!

[English]

REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE REFERRAL

Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister did not answer my question.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Supplementary question.

● (1440)

Mr. Cassidy: He also ignores the fact that this particular plan was distributed to 300,000 homes in the urban community of Montreal in the last week and a half. It tells people of a very carefully worked out plan to replace Canadair with residential housing.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Order, please!

Some Hon. Members: Order!

Some Hon. Members: Sit down.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please!

Mr. Rodriguez: Settle down over there.

Mr. Speaker: The Member will ask his question immediately, please.

Mr. Cassidy: Can the Prime Minister at least assure the House that Canadair will not be disposed of the way that de Havilland was without an opportunity for this House and a committee of this House to examine such a deal in advance of being presented with a *fait accompli*?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I think the House and everyone who watched it yesterday is aware of the vexatious way in which the Leader of the New Democratic Party sought to sow fear and confusion in the minds—