

*Oral Questions*

member for his very timely question. Yes, while there is concern among the air traffic controllers and their ability to handle the traffic, every effort is being made to make sure that safety is not compromised.

• (1450)

The hon. member will recall a year ago that, when there was a concern that there was too much traffic going in and out of Pearson, a limit was put on the number of planes that could go in and out of Pearson to make sure that the traffic controllers that were on staff would be able to adequately handle everything in a safe environment.

**Mr. Joe Comuzzi (Thunder Bay—Nipigon):** Mr. Speaker, on a supplementary, just let me read from the protected memo: "The first thing to go will be all project work, meetings, refresher development training. This will not be nearly enough to meet the amount that is going to be cut: the speciality shifts, the tower, the north, south, east and west specialty shifts. Naturally, levels at Pearson will drop, as will probably the cap at Pearson".

It just seems that we cannot afford any more of this nonsense going on at Pearson. We have to take hold of this airport and find out what is going on with the security, the air traffic flow and so on. What is happening at Pearson?

**Mr. Ross Belsher (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport):** I can assure the hon. member that nothing is being compromised with regards to safety at Pearson International Airport and nothing will be compromised.

I can certainly appreciate the member's concern with the ability of being able to handle the traffic that is demanded at Pearson. I can assure him that the traffic control system of training is filled to its capacity and every effort is being made to entice more traffic controllers into the system so we can make sure we fill the needs as they become available.

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**THE ECONOMY**

**Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance.

As the minister knows, the Canadian Manufacturers' Association has asked the government to reinstate the

wage and price controls that the Liberals introduced in 1982.

Will the Minister of Finance, who is obviously following the high interest rate policies of the Liberals, guarantee to hundreds of thousands of Canadians that they will not have their wages rolled back or limited by further government action?

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I have made it quite clear that I do not believe in wage and price controls. I do not think that they work.

**Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill):** Mr. Speaker, the minister may say he does not believe in them, but what we need is a guarantee that he will not do exactly as he said in the past. He said he was against high interest rates, but now he has high interest rates.

What is he going to do in the future to make sure that Canadian workers are not going to be forced into a regime of wage controls?

He said he was against high interest rates. We have high interest rates now. He says he is against wage and price controls. Are we going to have wage and price controls in the future?

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, my criticism of the previous policies of the Liberal government have been because they followed from very inappropriate policies that disregarded the seriousness of inflation and that led to the high interest rates that came about in 1981-1982.

That is the sort of policy that we are trying to avoid today, by trying to stop inflation now when it is 5.5 per cent and not let it run to 13.5 per cent. When it goes as high as 13.5 per cent, you are bound to have a blow-off like we had in 1981 and the resultant disaster in the economy and the high interest rates that led to that. That is what we are trying to avoid right now.

**Mr. Pat Sobeski (Cambridge):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance.

What are the consequences of the Senate's protracted delay in passing the income tax changes arising from the April, 1989 budget contained in Bill C-28, which included a tax on large corporations?

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, that is a very timely question. The 1989 budget and the large corporations tax were a very important part of the policies that we have been following to get the