

*S. O. 31*

What about fiscal responsibility? We heard one of the Conservative members speak just a moment ago on how this tax was really being brought in to solve the deficit. I think in fact he said the main objective is deficit reduction. Of course, that flies in the face of promises made before and during the election campaign that this was going to be a revenue neutral reform.

I have been digging around in the library and I came up with a document called: "Economic and Fiscal Statement". It was delivered in the House of Commons by the Minister of Finance on November 8, 1984. That was just two months after the election.

The Minister of Finance had some pretty grim news for Canadians. He told them that if they had not had the good fortune to elect him, that Canada was going to be in pretty desperate straits by the end of 1989 or 1990. He said that if his new policies were not put into effect then, under the old government's policies, federal revenues in 1990-91 were going to reach \$100 billion.

He said that federal spending by 1990-91 under the old government's policies was going to reach \$137 billion. He said with respect to the deficit that when he enacted his policies by 1990-91 he was going to bring it down to \$18 billion a year.

What is the reality? After this great change of course and of direction what has this fiscally responsible Minister of Finance done? Instead of the projected \$100 billion in government revenues by next year we now expect it is going to be \$120 billion—more than he had said in his worst case scenario. Instead of spending of \$137 billion, which he thought was going to be such a gloom and doom situation, we are now projecting \$149 billion—\$12 billion more. Instead of having an \$18 billion deficit, we all know he is going to come in in excess of \$30 billion.

These are the facts that the Minister of Finance has to bring to the people of Canada in asking this essential question. Does he have the credibility to bring in the most significant change in taxation in Canada since the introduction of the income tax in 1917?

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** The hon. member will have 13 minutes left in his debate plus 10 minutes questions and comments when we return to Government Orders.

It being one o'clock I do now leave the chair until two o'clock this day.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

**AFTER RECESS**

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

**STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31**

[*English*]

**SPORTS**

**Mr. John A. MacDougall (Timiskaming):** Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the fine young athletes representing Canada—in particular those from northern Ontario—in Auckland at the Commonwealth Games.

Whether it be France Gareau from Verner or the fine young boxer Domenic Filane from Schreiber, our athletes from northern Ontario are proving that they have the commitment and ability to compete with the best in the world.

In fact, northern Ontarians are very proud of the efforts of Kenora's Michael Smith who captured the gold medal in the most difficult test in the sporting world, the decathlon.

In performing his personal best in four events and in setting a new Canadian decathlon record, Michael Smith scored an impressive 8,525 points to win the Commonwealth gold.

I am sure that all members would want to join with me in congratulating Michael Smith on his Commonwealth achievement and wishing him the best in his future pursuits in the world arena. Congratulations, Michael.

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**EL SALVADOR**

**Mr. Dan Heap (Trinity—Spadina):** Mr. Speaker, last Thursday, after I left El Salvador, three men leading a Bible study class in a Baptist church were arrested by the