

The Address—Mr. Nunziata

morally irresponsible. Let us manage the deficit; let us not have the deficit manage us.

The question of unemployment and what the Government has done so far leads naturally into a further discussion of broken promises. One promise that tops the broken promises list and goes right to the heart of the new Government's credibility is the promise of open government. The Tory election campaign handbook says, "We will run an open, honest and accountable national Government". It adds that a new Tory Government would be "open to public scrutiny". The handbook says that Liberals have denied Canadians legitimate access to Government. It says that the Liberal Party has refused to release Government information, and it reports that Liberals have restricted access to Government records despite freedom of information legislation.

This Parliament is not yet three weeks old and already the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) has publicly repudiated directions he had issued for open government when he was Prime Minister. A severe and totally unwarranted muzzle has been placed on public servants in their dealings with the press. The Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Nielsen) has warned colleagues that if they talk to journalists, their jobs could be in danger. Ministers' staffs are not responding to legitimate questions from reporters. There have been thwarted moves to suppress news releases from private organizations. If this is the "New Ottawa", I will take the old one any day. Parliament is truly becoming Orwell's *Animal Farm* under the Conservative Government.

Let us look at some of the other promises. During the election campaign the Prime Minister constantly praised Liberal social programs and medicare, calling them "a sacred trust" and pledging never to tamper with the concept of universality. Within days of this Parliament's opening, the backtracking started. Now he says all programs are under review.

The deficit is another case in point. During the election campaign, in August as a matter of fact, the Prime Minister said that the deficit was not an overriding priority. Because of the need to create jobs quickly, he could envision some increase in the deficit. Then he reversed himself in the Throne Speech by saying that an immediate and substantial cut would have to be made in the deficit in order to produce jobs. Now he is saying, based on a speech given in Toronto last week, that even if the deficit is cut, unemployment will remain high.

The question of broken promises is an important one, especially concerning the economy, but an even more important question was raised by an economic analyst in a recent column when he asked, "Does the Mulroney Government really know what it is doing?" I will leave that judgment to the Canadian public, Mr. Speaker.

Let us look at some of the other promises. In October the Secretary of State for External Affairs, repeating a campaign pledge, said at the United Nations that our Government intends to maintain Canada's commitment to reach by 1990 7 per cent of the Gross National Product in official development assistance. Several weeks thereafter, the Minister of Finance

(Mr. Wilson) embarrassed the Secretary of State for External Affairs, and embarrassed Canada, by saying that the commitment made by Mr. Clark would have to be deferred until 1995. This Government's right hand does not know what its other right hand is doing, Mr. Speaker.

What about some of the other election promises? During the election campaign the Tories cried crocodile tears for the unemployed youth of the country. In *Pocket Politics*, their campaign bible, the Tories said, "We believe that all levels of government and the private sector face a major task in resolving the tragic youth unemployment situation".

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

SPORTS
CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE—1984 GREY CUP GAME—A HAMILTON VIEWPOINT

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, Sunday afternoon was a time of mixed emotions. For 15 somewhat euphoric minutes, the Tiger Cats of Hamilton outmuscled, outclassed, and outplayed the Winnipeg Blue Bombers. Oh, that football were a 15-minute exercise! What was by any standard a glorious event, with the passage of time turned into a bit of a nightmare for some, but not all.

As the voices of the stout hearts from Hamilton grew silent, the exuberance of the Winnipeg faithful grew in intensity. The best of the West drove on and in, pushing aside the protesting warriors from the East, until at last, with one final blast, it ended.

After 22 years I suppose we in the steel city must steel ourselves, smile a bit bravely, pretend it does not hurt, and recall, as some sort of solace, that it is only a game. We want to congratulate, of course, the winners from Winnipeg, and say with as much conviction as possible—

Mr. Speaker: Up until now we have been well within form, but when we get to congratulations we are leaving the form of statements under Standing Order 21.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I want to say that I almost had to put that in. I want to say to the winners in Winnipeg: "Wait until next year!", and to Harold Ballard: "On with the Maple Leafs!"