

*Oral Questions*

In conclusion, allow me to thank the representatives of my region for taking part in this event.

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● (1415)

[English]

### NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION

#### SALE OF LAND HOLDINGS OPPOSED

**Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport):** Mr. Speaker, the National Capital Commission announced today that it intends to sell publicly owned land in Ottawa to comply with a Treasury Board request to cut its budget by \$25 million. The citizens of Ottawa should express their views about this request.

It does not make much sense to sell publicly owned open space in a city which treasures every square inch of green. If anything, the NCC should be encouraged to acquire land so as to ensure for future generations the green urban spaces which have to date given Ottawa the reputation of being one of the most beautiful capitals in the world.

How can Treasury Board and the National Capital Commission reconcile the demand for a 27 per cent cut in the NCC budget with the mandate given to it as stated in the 1986-87 Estimates, which was to plan and develop from a national perspective the physical and spatial character of the Capital of Canada which will contribute to its aesthetics, symbolism, function, and effectiveness?

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### CANADA EMPLOYMENT CENTRES

#### CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS REMOVED BY KITCHENER OFFICE EMPLOYEE

**Mr. John Reimer (Kitchener):** Mr. Speaker, I rise in reference to the recent incident of a federal Government employee removing confidential unemployment insurance records from the Canada Employment Centre in my riding of Kitchener, Ontario.

According to the employee, the motivation for this action was to embarrass the Government by proving how easily Government security could be breached. However, I would submit that the only thing demonstrated by this illegal publicity stunt is that this individual is not worthy of the public trust. Furthermore, he has betrayed the confidence of his

colleagues in Kitchener and throughout Canada who serve the Canadian public with integrity each and every day.

This individual must be suspended without pay pending a full RCMP investigation and, if found guilty of theft, must be fired from his position and the appropriate court action must be taken. Canadians expect public servants to serve them effectively and efficiently. The vast majority of them do. Any breach of this privilege and responsibility cannot be tolerated.

### ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

#### PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

##### PRICE OF DRUGS—STATEMENT MADE BY DR. EASTMAN

**Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Yesterday the Minister accused the CBC of fabrication and implied that it was splicing the words of Dr. Eastman. Dr. Eastman was reinterviewed and said again yesterday that he believes the prices of drugs introduced in the future will be higher than they were under the old law.

Will the Minister withdraw the statement he made yesterday? Will he apologize to Dr. Eastman and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and will he apologize to Canadians?

**Mr. Broadbent:** And then resign.

**Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I have a copy of a letter to the Editor of *The Globe and Mail* from Dr. Eastman in my hand and this letter says in part:

Mr. Andre says that the changes will not cause the prices of the new branded drugs to rise above the levels at which they are introduced in the market. I agree.

The fact is that there is no disagreement between Dr. Eastman and me. If the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition had listened to last night's *As It Happens*, another CBC program, he would have heard Dr. Eastman and me discussing our points of agreement and the points about which there may be a difference in our points of view. However, it is not on price.

Let us get this legislation into committee and have Dr. Eastman appear. I will appear before the committee as will anyone else the Opposition wants. We will have a chance to examine this legislation.

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** I cannot follow the Minister in all his public appearances. I have enough trouble listening to him right here in the House of Commons.