

It is no wonder that more and more Canadians are treating politicians and politics with cynicism. It is more and more believable that Canadians out there think this is probably the only institution in the world that is run by its own inmates, because we seem to be at times so insane in terms of what we do and what we say.

I remind Members on the opposite side to go back to 1981-82 and take a look at the speeches they made, and take a look at the advice they were giving to Mr. Trudeau and Mr. MacEachen. We were saying similar things back in 1981 that we are saying now. We were saying that Budget would provoke a recession, that Budget would deepen the recession, that Budget would make the recession last longer. We were right. The Conservative Party was saying the same thing.

I see my friend from Halifax is now getting up and leaving his seat with big crocodile tears rolling down his cheeks. He was saying the same thing in those days. He in his heart of hearts knows that his Prime Minister is doing the wrong thing. But he is out there lobbying for a Cabinet post. He does not want to alienate the Minister of Finance and the Prime Minister. He does not have the courage, as has the Member for Portage—Interlake (Mr. Holtmann) who said last night about the closure of the base at Portage la Prairie that if there is any evidence that it is a case of east against west, I will stand up and I will vote against Mulroney in the House of Commons.

An Hon. Member: Where is he?

Mr. Nystrom: He does not have the same courage as that lonely soul on the Prairies from Portage la Prairie, that intellectual heavyweight of the Conservative Party who is going to take on the Prime Minister.

I say to my friends across the way, why do they not start the tax revolt in this country? Why do they not start the revolt that says, "This Budget will induce a recession in Canada"? Why do they not become the heroes of this Parliament by standing up and saying, "Look, what we said in 1981-82 was right, and we are going to say the same thing today". The Prime Minister has them on a short leash. They are all afraid of him. There is a good guy sitting across the way, the Member for Cambridge (Mr. Sobeski). I know he is ambitious. I know he wants to be a Cabinet Minister. He knows what I am saying is right. He knows that Joe Clark was right in 1981-82. He knows Michael Wilson was right in 1981-82, but he does

not say a word today. He does not dare say a word today because the Prime Minister has him on a short leash. All these politicians, if they do not make the Cabinet, they can still get some patronage. I notice that Mr. Hamelin, the former Member, has stepped aside for the Prime Minister in Charlevoix so he could represent Baie Comeau. He got another patronage appointment.

These people across the way are afraid to bite the hand that feeds them. That is why two or three years down the road the Canadian people are going to say no, and say no decisively, and throw out this gang across the way and elect a Government that cares for the ordinary people of Canada.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Order! 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*]

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

SHORT RANGE NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EUROPE

Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce): Mr. Speaker, Canada must support West Germany in its attempt to reduce short-range nuclear weapons in Europe. In this respect Canada must join with other NATO allies to convince the United States and Britain that this is the best option for peace and stability. To pursue the modernization of these weapons, which was targeted for the mid-1990s, will jeopardize seriously the prospect for successful arms reductions in Europe, and undermine the possibilities for phasing out the cold war. The call by the West Germans for the reduction of these weapons would bring us at least one step closer to this goal.

I urge our Government to join with those allies in NATO who seek to curtail these weapons and put an end to the arms race. Canada should take a strong stand right now.