

others, to pursue a quick resolution to this problem. I was therefore very pleased to hear in the Speech from the Throne that the new Government is prepared to act.

I would urge the Minister of Justice (Mr. Crosbie) and my colleagues in the Thirty-third Parliament to move with all possible haste to bring in the legislative changes that are so badly needed. Prostitution as well as pornography represent a form of exploitation of women, exploitation that is unacceptable to the people of Niagara Falls and unacceptable to the people of Canada.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

SUPPORT FOR PRINCIPLE OF UNIVERSALITY

Mr. Neil Young (Beaches): Mr. Speaker, I am alarmed to learn that the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) has hired William Mackness, vice-president and chief economist of the Bank of Nova Scotia, to be his special policy adviser. Mr. Mackness advises the elimination of the principle of universality of Old Age Security and family allowances in order to cut the federal deficit by an incredible 50 per cent. Such a sudden reduction in the deficit will not be felt by bankers like Mr. Mackness; rather, ordinary Canadians will pay for his policy ideas.

It is not surprising that this Government, while extolling the virtues of consultation, goes first to its friends in Canada's fourth largest bank for advice. What havoc will this Government wreak on social programs that benefit ordinary Canadians, in order to please its supporters in big business?

Members of the New Democratic Party fought long and hard for the right of Canadians to pensions and family allowances. We struggled for the principle of universality in these programs to prevent the indignity of a means test. I fear this Government wants to turn the clock back.

We are disappointed and frightened by the changing stand of the Tory Government on the question of universality. Once a sacred trust, universality is now under attack. In this appointment we see further evidence that the Prime Minister's (Mr. Mulroney) reassurances on universality were just an election ploy. We ask for a degree of honesty in this Government that we did not see in the previous Liberal Government.

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NATIONAL REVENUE

NEW APPROACH TO TREATMENT OF TAXPAYERS

Mr. Ken James (Sarnia-Lambton): Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I congratulate the Minister of Revenue (Mr. Beatty) on his project to humanize the tax department. Of all the complaints I have to deal with in my riding, most concern tax issues, tax agencies, tax men and their attitudes. I hesitate to use the word "tactics", although others have.

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The Minister has stated that by taking the tax department to the people not as an adversary but more as a counselling agency, it will encourage those who have been holding back to come out of the closet and pay their outstanding balances. I wholeheartedly agree with this approach and, as any parent knows, understanding will work far better than the big stick.

Changing the image of the tax department is a task that has long been put aside, perhaps deliberately. The Government has shown it has the determination and willingness to change rather than prolong a bad system merely because it is there.

This move has other positive aspects as well, not the least of which is the immediate employment of those seeking work. The Minister indicates some 380 person-years will be spent on this change. This indicates the Government's commitment and determination to follow through with the P.C. task force report recommending change to Revenue Canada. This shows the people of Canada that the Government is working for them rather than demanding that the people work for it.

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● (1410)

VIA RAIL

EDMUNDSTON TO MONCTON SERVICE

Mr. Bob Corbett (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, the people of New Brunswick and the Maritime region were heartened by the commitment of the Government to restore VIA Rails' Atlantic Limited. The elimination of the line was opposed by New Brunswickers and maritimers who had no desire to lose that efficient and popular link with Central Canada, nor the wish to see our tourism potential and regional mobility hindered. I am very pleased that the Government has recognized the value of the Atlantic Limited.

I would urge the Minister of Transport (Mr. Mazankowski) to move with speed in re-establishing this transportation system. The frustrations and inefficiency of the present service are well known and well documented. I wish to spare New Brunswickers, and all of those persons travelling throughout the Maritime region, the problems of poor scheduling, overbooking, wasted time, and unnecessary expense.

The reinstatement of the Edmundston to Moncton line was well received and I hope it will again be a permanent part of the VIA operations.

New Brunswickers realize and appreciate the Government is faced with the culmination of a decade and a half of fiscal mismanagement, extravagant waste, and irresponsibility. However, we hope that these factors will not deter the Government from returning to service, as soon as possible, a passenger rail line which never should have been abandoned.