

Oral Questions

industry, as well as by Ryerson Institute of Technology, which will provide training in a whole variety of areas such as robotics and laser technology, training which is very much needed and wanted in the marketplace. I would have thought that the Hon. Member, being from Toronto, would in fact be applauding this as exactly the kind of project we should be supporting, rather than saying it was a waste of taxpayers' money.

As far as the second part of his question which relates to tax incentives is concerned, it might be worth while if the Hon. Member would simply review the budget brought forward by my colleague, the Minister of Finance, which brings in exactly the kind of tax encouragements which will create jobs in the country.

Mr. Wilson: Madam Speaker, if the Minister would read that budget he would see that about two-thirds to three-quarters of the money that was added in that budget will be handed out by direct grants, loans or subsidies, and not by tax incentives.

LIBERAL PARTY ELECTION STRATEGY INQUIRY

Hon. Michael Wilson (Etobicoke Centre): Madam Speaker, the Government seems to be more concerned with developing a strategy for the recovery of the Liberal Party than with developing a strategy for the recovery of the economy. Is it true that the doling out of taxpayers' dollars, backed up by a high profile promotion campaign, is a critical element in the Liberal Party's strategy which is designed to rectify the desperate position that its Members find themselves in with the voters of Toronto?

Hon. John Roberts (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Madam Speaker, the kind of tax encouragement which is provided in my colleague's budget amounts to, if my memory serves me correctly, something like \$2.4 billion. I think that it not only will have, but has been having a very considerable effect on the creation of jobs in the country. I am surprised that the Hon. Member is not on his feet today saluting us because the unemployment statistics show that there has been a decline of one-half of 1 per cent in the unemployment figures. The policies which were brought in by my colleague's budget, and which we have pursued since, are working now and will continue to work in the future. It is about time Hon. Members on the other side of the House began to recognize that we are on the right track.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

SIGNS FOR WORKS PROJECTS

Mr. Thomas Siddon (Richmond-South Delta): Madam Speaker, it is obvious that the Minister does not want to reply to the question that my colleague has asked about the importance the Government places on advertising.

I would like to ask the Prime Minister if he will confirm the existence of a confidential document I have in my hand, dated

September 16, which is a Cabinet document called "Status Report on Communications". It, among other things, indicates as advice to Cabinet that the Government does not even know many jobs will be created directly or indirectly by the Special Recovery Capital Projects Program. There is more preoccupation with the number of signs going up than with actually producing new jobs.

● (1120)

Would the Prime Minister confirm that, in fact, of 247 construction projects approved to date, there are already signs on 199 and an additional 328 signs are to be erected? In other words, there will be more signs than projects. Will the Prime Minister confirm that this is the emphasis the Government is developing?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): The Hon. Member asks me to comment on a leaked Cabinet document. Let me read to him from the oath of Members of the Privy Council.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: Hon. Members over there laugh because they have forgotten their oath; we have not on this side.

Mr. Nielsen: How about your Minister of Energy?

Mr. Trudeau: I would be prepared to deposit a copy of this document that I will read from.

Mr. Nielsen: We did that during the Gillespie debate.

Mr. Trudeau: It would be perfectly useless, however, because those Members on the other side will never have occasion to take this oath.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Never say never, Pierre.

Mr. Trudeau: I quote, Madam Speaker: "you will keep close and secret all such matters as shall be treated, debated and resolved on in Privy Council . . . So help me God."

Mr. Stevens: Why didn't they?

Mr. Siddon: Madam Speaker, it is obvious the documents are leaked when some officials within Departments feel that things are going wrong.

SIZE OF SIGNS ADVERTISING PROJECTS

Mr. Thomas Siddon (Richmond-South Delta): Madam Speaker, this document states as follows:

At the request of Ministers, extra large project site signs have been erected at Toronto Harbourfront (60' x 15') and Dorval and Toronto airports (16' x 8').

The document also indicates that, because of initial adverse publicity surrounding the Canadair CL-215 program, a great national event would be held at Dorval in late September, including an air show where the CL-215 water bombers were to be flown, with several Cabinet Ministers participating.