

[Translation]

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

SEVENTH SQUASH TOURNAMENT BETWEEN MP'S AND THE PRESS

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, the star athletes of the parliamentary media and the ordinary sportsmen of the House of Commons have just held their Seventh Squash Tournament.

Although our opponents had obviously been training hard for a long time, they barely held on to the cup in this tournament between the media people and the elected representatives.

Since 1984, the tally is: MP's 5, Media 2.

I congratulate them, but our day will come. See you next time.

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REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

TRAIN TO WAKEFIELD

Mr. Gilles Rocheleau (Hull—Aylmer): Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about the financial contribution of the federal government to the proposed tourist train between Hull and Wakefield.

As a result of unrelenting efforts on the part of the community, particularly representatives of the three city involved, Hull, Hull-Ouest and La Pêche, which have bought the railway infrastructure between Hull and Wakefield, Quebec has granted \$1.4 million to this project which will bring in \$17 million in revenue and create about 124 jobs.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, the federal and provincial governments have been playing ping-pong with the tourist train proposal, and that unwarranted delay could jeopardize the project scheduled to start in May 1990.

Consequently, I insist that the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion speed up the analysis so that the project sponsors can get an answer before the end of May of this year, of course, Mr. Speaker. I do hope the Hon. Member for Pontiac—Gatineau—Labelle will support my request.

[English]

S.O. 31

THE ECONOMY

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT'S EXPENDITURES

Mr. Lee Richardson (Calgary Southeast): Mr. Speaker, my constituents are upset about high interest rates that are a result of government debt and inflation. Our Government has attacked this debt. We are told interest rates are high to fight the ravages of inflation. Westerners ask, what inflation? Inflation in Alberta is not out of control, but it is in Toronto, and we are all paying for it. Another irresponsible Liberal Government is spending like a drunken sailor at a time when its economy is booming. Its excessive government spending and deficit financing is fueling inflation and driving up interest rates to the detriment of Canadians in western Canada and in other regions.

Our Government is taking bold initiatives to fight the debt. What is the Peterson Government doing? While we trimmed 10,000 civil service jobs, Ontario has increased its civil service by 7,000. While we cut salaries and spending by 25 per cent, the Ontario Government increased spending by 24 per cent. When we cut administrative costs by 48.3 per cent, the Ontario Government's comparable costs increased by 25 per cent. Westerners are saying, enough is enough.

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SPACE RESEARCH

CLOSING OF ROCKET RANGE AT CHURCHILL, MANITOBA

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, for years now Canadians have known that the ozone layer, sheltering the earth from the sun's harmful rays, is at risk. Canadians should also know that we have one of the finest research stations for monitoring that ozone layer right here in Canada. In Churchill, Manitoba, we have what is considered the finest northern rocket range station in the free world for studying the ozone layer. The Manitoba launcher is praised by American and Canadian scientists alike. I quote one American scientist who has said:

It is the best location for such research.

In addition, Churchill's launching pads are indoors and heated, essential for winter launching. However, in 1985, the Canadian Government decided to shut down the Churchill rocket range by 1992.