

help reduce Canada's deficit. Mr. Cohen proposed that corporations should pay 2 per cent more in corporate taxes for the next three years, and has urged the Canadian Chamber of Commerce to support this idea.

Given the size of our deficit and the fact that, according to the Auditor General, the cost to Canadians in tax expenditures, most of which benefits go to these corporations, is somewhere between \$30 billion and \$50 billion, I feel that the time is perfect to follow Mr. Cohen's suggestion.

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[Translation]

SOCIAL SECURITY

PROGRAM OF ALLOCATION TO SPOUSES—ALLEGED DISCRIMINATION

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal-Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, a recent Gallup poll has shown that 57 per cent of Canadians disagreed about the stupid decision of the Government to waste \$36 million in public funds to change the colour of the Canadian forces uniform.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that the members of this House, whatever their party, will have the Right Hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) come back to his senses and transfer those \$36 million to the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Epp) to prevent any discrimination against senior citizens who will be denied access to his program of spouse allowances merely because they are single, separated or divorced.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, I am against the party which is being prepared in the House of Commons in view of the wasteful expenditures made on fir trees. I do not know if a friend of the Prime Minister had a lot of fir trees to sell but I think that money should have been used to help the needy.

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● (1410)

[English]

ABORTION

APPEAL AGAINST ACQUITTAL BY TORONTO JURY

Mr. Jim Jepson (London East): Mr. Speaker, the laws of our land are becoming a mockery in light of the outcome of the Morgentaler trial. I heartily commend Attorney General Roy McMurtry on appealing the Morgentaler case on the grounds that Dr. Morgentaler clearly admitted he broke the law, yet a jury saw fit to disregard the law and take upon itself the responsibility to judge whether a particular set of circumstances justified a specific law being broken. The job of the jury was not to decide whether the law was just or not; the job of the jury was to determine whether Dr. Morgentaler had broken the law.

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Either the law of the land is to be adhered to, Mr. Speaker, or it should be abolished. Obviously the latter is not a logical choice. However, the outcome of this trial has set a dangerous precedent, one that cannot be accepted by the Crown or the people of Canada.

The jury selection in the Morgentaler trial made a mockery of that system as well. I urge our Attorneys General and Minister of Justice to make every effort to prevent this from ever happening again. The discrimination against upstanding, honest, hard-working Canadians, because they were churchgoers or occasionally attended church, was appalling.

I applaud Mr. McMurtry on making a difficult decision politically, but one that was in the best interests of all Canadians.

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[Translation]

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

REFERRAL TO AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT

Mr. François Gérin (Mégantic-Compton-Stanstead): Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to suggest to the Hon. Member for Montreal-Sainte-Marie (Mr. Malépart) that he should read the report of the Auditor General before describing the actions of this government as stupid.

When the Auditor General points out that there was a small mistake of \$3.5 billion in the F-18 program, it is hard for my constituents to understand. When he says that the deficit was practically out of control, he confirms what we were saying during the electoral campaign and he confirms that Canadians were right to think that it was about time to get rid of the previous Government, which was out of control. There is still room to skim off the fat. One federal employee in five is over-classified, which goes against the legislation and regulations approved by this House. We find that a bolt that should have cost \$9 did in fact cost \$1,900. If this is what the Hon. Member for Montreal-Sainte-Marie (Mr. Malépart) wants, he should take the time to read this report before calling the decisions made by this House stupid.

This report proves what we have always maintained. It summarizes what we were saying during the campaign.

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[English]

ENERGY

BRITISH COLUMBIA OFFSHORE DEVELOPMENT—CRITICISM OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PANEL

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, the federal-provincial panel reviewing environmental impacts of offshore drilling in British Columbia lacks credibility because of its restrictive terms of reference. The panel is not even able to ask the basic question of whether or not Canada