

minister at one time and confirmed the existence of such a kickback system.

Let me also quote another source. This time I am referring to something Marcel Adam wrote in *La Presse*: "Since they came to power five years ago, the Conservatives have constantly confirmed their deplorable lack of public morality and parliamentary ethics. With their weak moral standards, they are becoming one of the most corrupt parties to head a federal government and taking us back to a time that we thought had ended decades ago.

As far back as I can remember as a professional observer of public life, which is about 30 years, I cannot think of a regime showing signs of corruption so early and being so unscrupulous about the rules of ethics and the parliamentary system". This is what Marcel Adam wrote on May 27, 1989.

[English]

I want to turn to what Don McGillivray, Southam News columnist, said on February 2, 1990. He said the following about the Brian Gallery affair. We remember that conflict of interest case and the subsequent resignation of one Brian Gallery. Mr. McGillivray said:

Is there no end to the parade of cabinet ministers, members of Parliament and appointed officials who use positions of public trust to advance their private interests?

He said further:

And until Gallery's resignation as Canadian National director and vice-chairman was announced Thursday in the Commons—

And he used the Prime Minister's name:

—was in his usual posture of stalling for time while he tried a political counter-attack: "The Liberals are not seeking justice. They want a lynching. They're not going to get it in the House of Commons".

Referring to the member for Roberval who was the transport minister at that time, he said:

And Transport Minister—backed this play by indicating scepticism about the letters signed by Gallery and produced in the Commons by the opposition parties: "The honourable member says he has a letter. They always have letters".

Eventually the gentleman resigned, a close friend of the Prime Minister.

Supply

I have another story. This one was written in *The Gazette* of Montreal on December 16, 1989. It has the pictures of six prominent Conservatives. Because some of them are still sitting in the House I will not refer to them. I will only refer to the others who are no longer with us. It identifies the following:

Edouard Desrosiers, the former Tory MP for Hochelaga—Maisonneuve, faces eight charges, including a corruption charge relating to \$2,000 the Crown alleges he received from a company doing business with the federal government.

It continues:

Richard Grisé, the Tory MP for Chambly, was sentenced to one day in prison, three years' probation and fined \$20,000 in May.

He admitted operating a complex kickback deal that put the employees of a friend's company on the government payroll. He also admitted taking kickbacks from builders.

Michel Côté was fired as supply and services minister in 1988 after failing to report a \$256,000 loan from a friend who was a government contractor.

Roch LaSalle quit the cabinet in 1987 following reports of influence peddling—

André Bissonnette was dumped as junior minister of transport in January 1987 for alleged involvement in a series of questionable land flips in Quebec—

Suzanne Blais—Grenier, the minister of state for transport, stepped down in December 1985 at Mulroney's urging after press reports of her lavish spending abroad.

Sinclair Stevens quit as a minister of regional industrial expansion in May 1986 after reports that his wife, Noreen, had negotiated a \$2.6 million loan for his family companies from Magna International, an auto parts company that had received grants from Stevens' department.

A royal commission found that Stevens had violated conflict of interest guidelines 14 times while in cabinet.

He is trying to overturn the decision. It continues:

Robert Coates quits as defence minister in February 1985—

It goes on and on. The next story is by Geoffrey Stevens, national affairs correspondent with *The Gazette*, dated February 25, 1990. He said:

Brian Gallery, a personal friend of the Prime Minister Mulroney, resigns as vice-chairman of Canadian National Railways following reports that he tried to influence CN to keep buying ads in publications that he owns.

What's going on? Hardly a week passes, it seems, that someone in the Mulroney ambit—MP, minister or patronage appointee—is not being investigated for something or charged with something or being forced to resign from something.

This is what was said at the time by Mr. Geoffrey Stevens.