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shipyards to believe that the Government would build 12 minesweepers.

After Quebecers were cheated on the frigates, after the Ministers and Members from the region had promised spinoffs, we see the Minister of National Defence again trying to lull Quebecers.

Mr. Speaker, the people at the shipyards in Lauzon, Sorel and Montreal will not make the same mistake of believing this Government. They want elections so they can beat this Conservative Government.

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TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—POSITION OF LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

Mr. Gabriel Desjardins (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, Quebecers will never forgive the Leader of the Liberal Opposition (Mr. Turner) for working hand and glove with the Senate to block the will of Canada's elected representatives. The Francophone press in Quebec has severely criticized the Liberal Leader's strategy. On July 22, Claude Masson wrote in *La Presse* about the undemocratic nature of a decision he qualified as inconceivable and unpardonable. Paul-André Comeau, in an editorial in *Le Devoir* of July 22, under the heading "A desperate wager", asked the following question: "Is the Liberal Leader playing Russian roulette, with bullets in every single chamber?"

Mr. Speaker, this new blunder by the Liberal Leader shows once again that he doesn't understand the people of Quebec. Most Quebecers think the Senate is useless and costs too much money, and they will never have any sympathy for a politician who hides behind the skirts of this institution. In the next federal election, Quebecers will make the Liberal Leader pay a very high price for this underhanded manoeuvre which reveals a lack of the most elementary leadership!

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● (1405)

[English]

THE ADMINISTRATION

CRITICISM OF POLICIES

Mrs. Sheila Finestone (Mount Royal): Mr. Speaker, I sense cynicism and skepticism off this Hill because of a lack of balance for fair economic policy coupled with fair social policy. Conservative scales of justice are tilted by a market-driven philosophy for its own sake.

Seniors see through the Government's hypocritical language to the fine print realities of living in this Tory land, seniors and

middle-income earners who understand they are bearing the brunt of this Tory-vision world.

What an unfair, hidden, tax-ridden destiny, seniors tell me have been foisted on them. Yet the Government thinks Canadians are stupid. After taxing hundreds of dollars from each of our pockets since 1984 it thinks that we are fooled and will say thank you for putting back a few dollars in this month's pay-cheque. We are not deceived.

Does it think us so senile that we cannot remember its attack on fixed incomes through a sneaky attempt at deindexing our pensions, or for even considering a food tax? Shame on the Government for deindexing the tax table, for removing the \$1,000 pension investment income deduction, for discriminating in allocations of spousal allowances, for attempting cuts in our New Horizons programs, and particularly for calling its trade deal free when it is a total sell-out of Canada.

There is no integrity out there in Tory-land. Seniors will never trust a Conservative Government again.

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FARM CREDIT CORPORATION

INCREASED FEDERAL FUNDING

Mr. Don Ravis (Saskatoon East): Mr. Speaker, the federal Government stands firmly behind the Farm Credit Corporation. That is good news for Canada's farmers.

The \$400 million in support announced last week by the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Wise) will ensure that the FCC continues to assist the agricultural community. This is a first step toward financial recovery for many Canadian farmers.

To ensure total financial recovery for the FCC, additional funds will be provided as needed over the next three years. The corporation will be able to continue to provide long-term credit to farmers at competitive rates. Farmers with outstanding debt to the FCC will continue to be treated fairly.

Saskatchewan farmers are carrying the largest FCC debt load. This announcement is very good news for the farmers in our province.

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ATLANTIC CANADA OPPORTUNITIES AGENCY

REPORT OF CANADA EMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mr. Jack Harris (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, the tabling of the report by the Canada Employment and Immigration Advisory Council on the employment needs and policies for Newfoundland and Labrador is welcomed.