

I remind the Hon. Member that we inherited a legacy of high interest, high debt, and high unemployment. We are acting on all three fronts and making progress, I might say, on all three fronts, which is very important to western Canadians—without, I might add, the support of the New Democratic Party.

I can only add, further to my response to the Hon. Member for Winnipeg—Fort Garry, I tried to respond as best I could and I think I gave an undertaking that, as soon as the Minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board returns, I will take it up with him and see what can be done. However, I repeat that there was a proposal, as I understand it, put before the Manitoba Government. The Manitoba Government was not prepared to be a party to an agreement, and the Province of Alberta and the Province of Quebec were.

**Mr. Blaikie:** Mr. Speaker, I do not have the time under the Standing Orders of the House to go into all the promises made to Winnipeg and to Western Canada which have been broken.

**An Hon. Member:** Name one.

**Mr. Blaikie:** The VIA Rail shop in Winnipeg, the Manufacturing Technology Centre. I could go on for some time, Mr. Speaker, but you would not let me.

**Mr. de Jong:** Where is the CF-18?

**Mr. Blaikie:** We won't even get into the CF-18.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Member will put his question.

#### PROPOSAL MADE IN 1985

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. A proposal was made to the Government of Manitoba, a proposal which involved breaking the promise of the Government that no more provincial moneys would be required. That was a promise made in 1985. When will the Government live up to its promise made in 1985? Never mind what the Government of Alberta does. It lets itself be pushed around by the Government, but not the Government of Manitoba. The Government of Manitoba wants the Government to live up to its promises.

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, I certainly would not want the Hon. Member to get the New Democratic Party promises mixed with Progressive Conservative promises because there is no question we have no intention of fulfilling some of the foolish promises put forward by the New Democratic Party before this House or during the election campaign, either.

#### Oral Questions

#### INDIAN AFFAIRS

##### SETTLEMENT OF NATIVE CLAIMS IN YUKON—MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

**Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane—Superior):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. I would like to direct his attention to Yukon. He will know that in November of 1985, three parties, namely, the Council for Yukon Indians, the Government of Canada and the Government of the Yukon reached something which is known as the "Memorandum of Understanding". This Memorandum of Understanding sets out the guidelines for negotiating and settling native claims in the Yukon.

Why is it that the Council for the Yukon Indians has signed, the Government of the Yukon has signed, but so far the place for the signature of the Government of Canada remains blank? I ask that question because in June of 1986 the all-party Committee on Aboriginal Affairs recommended that this Memorandum of Understanding be signed.

**Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, it was not *carte blanche* from the Standing Committee that that be signed. There were some provisions which were made by the Standing Committee so that the memorandum could be signed. Those provisions, as the Hon. Member well knows, have not been met.

**Mr. Penner:** Well, the Minister knows that the main provision, as outlined in the Minister's response, was that the Coolican Task Force report be responded to by the Government, and that has been done.

##### INSTRUCTIONS TO FEDERAL NEGOTIATOR

**Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane—Superior):** Why does the Minister leave the federal negotiator standing waiting in the Yukon without his instructions? When will the Minister get busy and issue the marching orders to that negotiator, incorporate this Memorandum of Understanding in the mandate, and allow him to get down to work in this important matter in the Yukon Territory?

• (1440)

**Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, I also recognize, as the Hon. Member does, that the settlement of land claims in Yukon not just for Indian people but for all Yukoners is a very important matter. The mandate is proceeding through Cabinet with respect to the Dene-Métis claim. The CYI claim will proceed. I have already had discussions and will be having further discussions with the Council of Yukon Indians. In due course the mandate will be put forward.

I remind the Hon. Member that there was a mandate in place for over a dozen years. I ask the Hon. Member to allow the Government, which has had from December, to come forward with a mandate sometime this spring, a mandate which we hope will provide settlement of the Yukon claims.