

*Oral Questions*

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, first I would like to thank the Leader of the Opposition for his offer of co-operation on the initiative that the Government is pursuing to try to diminish tension between the superpowers and opposing blocs. I am happy that he has already appointed the former Prime Minister to assist his Party in pursuing this course.

Part of the answer to his question is contained in his question. It is a billion dollar fund. That fund is made up partly of reallocated money that was already in the Estimates, and some new money, some \$50 million from the UI fund. My recollection of when it was discussed several weeks ago in Cabinet is that the total amount is closer to \$330 million, or thereabouts, than the \$400 million. I would have to consult with the Minister of Employment and Immigration to see if my figures need to be updated.

## AMOUNT OF NEW FUNDING

**Mr. Brian Mulroney (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, we have a \$88 million error here between the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Employment and Immigration. Then again, I should be thankful for small blessings. The last time the Minister of Finance touched a sheet of paper with figures on it, it cost us \$200 million.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

● (1420)

**Mr. Mulroney:** I think the Prime Minister would agree that the amounts are important because, if the fund is \$1 billion, it amounts to an allocation of \$35 a week for every unemployed young Canadian; if it is \$400 million, it comes to \$14 a week; if it is \$260 million, it means \$9 a week for every unemployed young Canadian who is so desperately looking for a job.

Inasmuch as it involved a pretty grave error by members of the Ministry, could the Prime Minister—and I recognize he has been away—tell me whether the new money amount is \$400 million, \$310 million, or \$312 million as set out by the Minister of Finance?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition seems to be repeating his former question and I answered it, that, to my recollection—it went back to discussions several weeks ago in Cabinet—it was closer to the amount of some \$320 million or \$330 million. The Leader of the Opposition, by a simple process of division, seems to think that it is not very much money. Yet he thinks that \$200 million that the Minister of Finance had additional in his last budget was too much. Which is too much, and which is too little? What would the Leader of the Opposition put in, in view of the fact that he wants to cut the deficit, in view of the fact that he wants to spend more on defence, and in view of the fact he wants to give more money to the provinces for medicare? Where would he get the money to do more for young people, for which he says we do not have enough?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Mulroney:** The Prime Minister asks what I would have done with the Minister of Finance. I would have fired him, and his predecessor.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Mulroney:** While I am at it, there is the former Minister of Multicultural Affairs who says that this Government is run by “ballyhoo, cynicism and manipulation.” I would give him the Order of Canada for truthfulness, which I could not give them.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Mulroney:** Now, if the Prime Minister wants any further advice I can see him after the Question Period, and I will not charge him \$800 a day for it either.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

## SIZE OF FUNDING

**Mr. Brian Mulroney (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, there is a disparity of \$88 million between two Ministers in interviews yesterday. One is a senior Minister, and one so gently aspires to become one.

**An Hon. Member:** What is the question?

**Mr. Mulroney:** Will the Prime Minister tell—  
[*Translation*]

It's coming. Wait.

[*English*]

Will the Prime Minister indicate if the in excess of 524,000 youth of Canada who are without jobs should be looking in terms of hope to the figure given by the Minister of Finance or by the Minister of Employment and Immigration?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that the Leader of the Opposition is milking that question a lot of times. He asked it three times in the same Question Period—

**Mr. Nielsen:** What is the answer?

**Mr. Trudeau:** —and he blew a few of his jokes that he should have really saved for tomorrow, because I do not think he will be very funny tomorrow unless he has good speech writers.

**Mr. Mulroney:** Come and see. Buy a ticket and you take your chances.

**Mr. Trudeau:** I will be here, Mr. Speaker; I will be here. But I am just saying that the preview does not make me want to pay much for the ticket.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!