

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, April 16, 1986

The House met at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[Translation]

REVENUE CANADA

PREPARATION OF INCOME TAX RETURNS BY SPECIALIST COMPANIES

Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard—Anjou): Mr. Speaker, *The Gazette* published the results of a survey showing that seven out of seven firms which offer their services to complete tax returns for Canadians were unable to prepare correctly the tax return submitted by the newspaper.

Not long before the *Toronto Star* had revealed that 43 per cent of income tax inquiries directed to Revenue Canada had been erroneously answered.

The Minister of National Revenue is dumbfounded by these facts but has no solution or guarantee for Canadians now facing various problems. The Conservatives made all kinds of promises during the election campaign, but they are not very good at coping with present difficulties.

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[English]

SHIPBUILDING

LACK OF POLICY

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, this morning I returned from meetings with groups and concerned individuals in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Among the important issues raised was the lack of clear Government policies regarding the shipbuilding industry. The present Government and previous Governments have failed to provide this clear direction. We do not have a policy on shipbuilding and this has resulted in the closing of shipyards and the laying-off of many workers.

Some Government financed contracts and Crown corporations have gone offshore. Some cabinet Ministers have promoted this process. Some Government work is designated for certain yards while other work is placed for open competition. Yet there are no clear guidelines for taking these diverse courses of action.

Our shipbuilding industry is in shambles. We cannot expect private industry to build ships in Canada, to fly Canadian flags, and to have repair work and renovations done in our own yards if the Government itself fails to provide the necessary leadership.

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[Translation]

ENERGY

GASOLINE TAXES

Mr. Vincent Della Noce (Duvernay): Mr. Speaker, further to an article that appeared in one of the major Montreal newspapers last Saturday, under the headline: "Ottawa to put 3-cent tax on gas", I want to reassure the many Quebecers who are worried about this rumour which has no basis in fact.

Quebecers have hardly had time to enjoy the recent 10-cent drop in the price per litre when someone tries to spoil it. I hardly think there will be a 3-cent increase per litre, and personally I am confident there will be further price reductions, especially in Quebec. As you all know, we have a 6-cent surtax per litre which has been around for too long.

Furthermore, although our Government realizes that the oil crisis is a matter of national importance and has created a very critical situation, it has not yet made a decision.

But I know that whatever the Government's decision will be, it will be in the best interests of all workers and consumers.

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NATIVE PEOPLES

APPOINTMENTS TO CREE-NASKAPI COMMISSION

Mr. Guy St-Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to inform the House that on February 6, 1986, Justice Réjan Paul, Mr. Robert Kanatewat from Abitibi and Mr. Richard Saunders were appointed members of the Cree-Naskapi Commission. The appointments were made by the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Hon. David Crombie, and the Cree and Naskapi themselves.

The Commission was established under the Cree and Naskapi of Quebec Act, the first piece of legislation passed by