

correspondence from its membership asking for clarification of the Government's announcement.

I don't think what happened was fair, and I suggest that the President of the Treasury Board should make a statement to clarify that no deal has been struck to end pension indexing and, further, to reassure these senior citizens, who have contributed so long to the Government of Canada, that the Government does not entertain any such plans in its negotiations—

Mr. Speaker: I regret to inform the Hon. Member that his time has expired.

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THE ADMINISTRATION

SAVINGS ACHIEVED THROUGH CONTRACT

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, on September 4 last the people of Canada in every province and territory of our country spoke loudly and clearly in giving the Progressive Conservative Party, under the leadership of the Right Hon. Brian Mulroney, a mandate to govern Canada, to cut costs, and to get full value for every dollar spent. The Progressive Conservative Government is doing this and yet, in spite of the mandate, the Liberals and New Democrats daily obstruct and oppose in order to prevent the Government from carrying out its mandate. Many instances can be quoted, but look at the last one.

The Government let a contract which will save the people of Canada at least a half a million dollars, and just because the company has a relative in the Cabinet, the Opposition cry loud and long. Had the contract been given to friends of the Liberals or the New Democratic Party at twice the price, the way the last Government worked, not a word would have been heard.

Our Government and the Ministers involved should be applauded for saving \$500,000 of the people's money, but the Opposition doesn't say a word about the savings. It wallows in the garbage pit of character assassination. Go ahead, Mike and Harvie, keep saving money and getting full value for every dollar spent. Ignore the obstructionists. The Canadian people are right behind you.

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[Translation]

THE ADMINISTRATION

APPOINTMENTS—CRITERIA—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Gabriel Desjardins (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, for several weeks, in fact for over six months, the Opposition parties in this House have been attacking every single appointment made by this Government since it was elected. The Liberals are doing this quite shamelessly and take a moralizing tone that is hardly appropriate in their case. As for the New

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Democratic Party, it is green with envy, since it knows perfectly well it will never have this privilege.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

Mr. Desjardins: Mr. Speaker, the Liberals who held sway over this country for 75 years were never very fussy about practising nepotism and acting as if they owned the country.

On September 4, Mr. Speaker, Canadians voted for sweeping changes, and it therefore makes perfect sense for a new Government to proceed with a large number of appointments at all levels of government administration. This Government was elected with a clear mandate to govern this country and make decisions, and it is therefore imperative that it should seek out competent and trustworthy people to carry out the policies it has formulated.

Mr. Speaker, Monday evening I was listening to an open-line program on the French CBC network, and the vast majority of callers agreed with and supported without reservation the appointments made by this Government. It is important to listen to public opinion, and I am convinced that the majority of Canadians agree with the attitude taken by our Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) in this matter and the choices he has made. What Canadians want above all, Mr. Speaker, is competence, and they trust the judgment of our Prime Minister.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS

PERTINENCE OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER S.O. 21

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal-Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, it would seem that Conservative Members are still under the impression that the 15-minute statement period is designed for self-congratulatory messages. Mr. Speaker, it has reached the point where Progressive Conservative Members take the floor to pat themselves on the back for all those patronage appointments. Just about the only thing they can do, Mr. Speaker, is to rise to congratulate one another and rejoice about the "Smiling Brian of Baie-Comeau Fan Club" where people pay \$100 for the privilege of attending benefit luncheons to fill Party coffers. And yet, Mr. Speaker, that same Party is opposed to any amendment in the interest of 80,000 elderly Canadians who feel deprived. The behaviour of Progressive Conservative Members is scandalous.

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[English]

AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

CHRYSLER CORPORATION—WINDSOR ENGINE PLANT

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex-Windsor): Mr. Speaker, Chrysler Corporation has just announced a major new joint