

when their Government wanted to pass Bill S-31, the purpose of which was to abolish the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec? They were, as usual, either hiding under the rug or following their shepherd like 74 sheep.

Mr. Speaker, we really do not need the Liberals to tell us how to behave, and I think the performance of our Members in this House is remarkable, compared with that of our predecessors.

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[English]

### FORESTRY

#### FEDERAL FUNDING FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, during the election campaign Progressive Conservatives convinced many voters in British Columbia and across Canada that forestry was high on their agenda for federal funds. An amount of \$200 million per year was promised for B.C. and, to date, no Conservative has denied that pledge. The Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) promised a full Cabinet position and a Ministry of Forests. We have only a Minister of State hidden away in Agriculture Canada, with a budget that is 15 per cent smaller than that given by Pierre Trudeau. Pierre Trudeau even offered \$60 million to British Columbia for reforestation last year.

Now we find the Conservatives in collusion with Bill Bennett, offering at most \$30 million in federal dollars per year for British Columbia. That soon may be slashed to \$15 million. At least \$300 million per year must be spent to replant the 600,000 hectares of good and medium backlog in British Columbia. These sites are close to our mills and communities and will return over 10 per cent value of investment per year, according to Canadian Forest Service estimates.

British Columbians are not amused that the promises of last September have been watered down from \$200 million to \$30 million per year, and perhaps now to \$15 million per year. Our forests are our future and the jobs of our children. The public has been sadly misled by many Progressive Conservatives on their promised support for forestry in Canada.

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[Translation]

### ADMINISTRATION

#### THE NEW GOVERNMENT

**Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis):** Mr. Speaker, the last survivors, the last 40 Members of an organization that is about to become extinct, have been crying out about the performance of Progressive Conservative Members in this House. This is the ultimate hypocrisy, Mr. Speaker. On September 4, the Canadian people made it very clear what they thought of the performance of the Liberal Members.

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Mr. Speaker, I wish to point out to this House that our 211 Progressive Conservative Members have become very active participants in the business of Parliament, by their speeches and various debates on legislation, through their participation in the various standing committees of the House, and their activities in the national and regional caucuses and the subject caucus where they help evaluate Government programs.

Finally, and this is very important, Mr. Speaker, while 74 wishy-washy Members from Quebec had practically made people forget Canada as a nation by their intellectual absence from Ottawa and their physical absence from their ridings, Progressive Conservative Members are present in their ridings and through them, Canada is again becoming visible to and appreciated by all Canadians. Through that presence, Mr. Speaker, Progressive Conservative Members are going to remove any doubts as to the existence of a Canada *A mari usque ad mare*.

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### SOCIAL SECURITY

#### ELIGIBILITY OF SINGLE PERSONS

**Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montréal-Sainte-Marie):** Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to answer back—

**An Hon. Member:** Where were you 20 years ago?

**Mr. Malépart:** Mr. Speaker, Conservative Members think this is the mutual admiration period.

Mr. Speaker, this House is the forum for expressing our views and defending people.

Speaking on a much more serious note, several months ago, I took it upon myself to inform and convince various groups from all across the country of the need to stop this Conservative Government's continuing discrimination against single persons aged 60 to 64.

Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Hon. Members to please listen—

Mr. Speaker, I would like to mention here some of the groups who supported the suggestion I made to the Prime Minister that he extend the provision to all single persons in need, without discriminating against those who are single, separated or divorced. They are: the Association québécoise pour la défense des droits des retraités et des pré-retraités; FADOQ, the Fédération des clubs de l'Age d'or du Québec; the Fédération des familles monoparentales du Québec; the Fredericton Voice of Women, in New Brunswick; the YMCA of Halifax, Nova Scotia; the Saskatchewan Woman Institute; the Widow Talk Association of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario; the Business and Professional Women's Club, Summerside, Ontario; the Mature Women's Support Network, Vancouver, British Columbia—