

conomic statement of November 1984 and his budgets. These are the results.

Mr. Speaker, you know, as I do, the Quebec motto. It is: "I remember". And in 1981-1982, I did remember—I had a lawyer's office—that interest rates were at 22 per cent. The member for Hamilton East was then a member of Parliament, not a business woman. She did not have to pay 22 per cent. Like most of my colleagues from the province of Quebec, I had to pay an interest rate of 22 per cent because the then liberal government had the indecency, the gall to let inflation flare up to 13 per cent. Not 6 or 7 per cent but 13 per cent. That is what I call a recession! And that was also due to a lack of economic and fiscal policy.

Mr. Pronovost: MacEachen!

Mr. Vincent: I will not deal in detail with the MacEachen budget that my colleague from Saint-Maurice is talking about, a budget which brought about some 90 changes after its introduction. Let's not go into that! Because if talk about MacEachen, I have to talk about the Senate. And if I talk about the Senate, Mr. Speaker, I must read the following as reported in today's *La Presse*: The present attitude of liberal senators is most unfortunate according to *Le Conseil du patronat du Québec* which invites the population to protest in order to get the liberal senators to stop their foolishness and get serious.

Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): The hon. member for Kingston and the Islands on a point of order.

Mr. Milliken: Mr. Speaker, the motion under consideration this afternoon deals with a recession created and planned by this government. The hon. member is talking about the Senate. There is nothing in this motion about the Senate. I would ask that hon. member confine himself to the motion under consideration and not discuss the Senate. Mr. Speaker, we must also—

• (1730)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): I regret to interrupt the member for Kingston and the Islands, who is quite experienced and knows the rules, but what he just said is a matter of opinion.

Supply

Therefore, I prefer to let other address this question.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Pierre H. Vincent (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I thank you for your remarks, but I would like to go a little further. To begin with, Mr. Speaker, as I told you at the beginning of my speech, when the truth is spoken, members opposite aren't pleased. But, on the other hand, the present economic conditions are partly due to the non-elected liberal senators who have the nerve—I repeat, the nerve—to hold back bills duly adopted by this House, by members of Parliament elected on November 21, 1988.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, the Senate issue has something to do with today's motion.

Some hon. members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Vincent: I told you, Mr. Speaker, that there would be some whining from the other side!

An hon. member: Respect democracy!

An hon. member: They're whining!

Mr. Vincent: Mr. Speaker, I find that amusing, but I will nevertheless continue to tell you what the president, Mr. Ghislain Dufour, said in his press release: "Mr. Ghislain Dufour believes the show given by the Liberal senators to be of questionable quality, in that they show no respect for the legitimacy of Parliament and for the democratic principles which form the basis of our parliamentary regime".

That, Mr. Speaker, is the opinion of the people of Trois-Rivières whom I met this weekend. These people told me that the Liberal senators, not too bright to start with, had all gone mad.

Just this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, senator Hébert, whose brother is in favour of the GST, quarrelled with an elected member of Parliament and insulted him—

Mr. Saint-Julien: Hébert the Liberal buffoon.

Mr. Vincent: Mr. Speaker, indeed, the Senate issue has to do with the motion presented today.

To get back to what I was saying, Mr. Speaker, in 1984, the Minister of Finance said we would have vigorous economic growth followed by a slowdown. He said that in 1984. Do you know why he said that in 1984? Because