

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, January 13, 1986

The House met at 11 a.m.

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, there have been consultations between the Opposition House Leaders and myself with respect to the business for today. As Your Honour will appreciate, we are to be honoured today by an address to a joint sitting of the Senate and the House of Commons by the Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Nakasone. Accordingly, I believe you will find that there is a disposition to accept the passage of the following draft order, by unanimous consent, without debate:

That, notwithstanding any Standing or Special Order of this House, in relation to this day's proceedings, the House shall immediately proceed to "Statements by Members pursuant to Standing Order 22" and at 11.15 o'clock a.m. the House shall proceed to the Oral Question Period, provided that at 12.00 o'clock noon the Speaker shall adjourn the House until the next sitting day;

That the address of His Excellency the Prime Minister of Japan to be delivered in the House Chamber later this day, before Members of the Senate and the House of Commons, together with all introductory and related remarks, be printed as an appendix to the *House of Commons Debates* of this day so that they form part of the record of this House; and

[Translation]

and

That His Excellency's address, together with all introductory and related remarks, be made available to the media for transmission in the usual way by the House of Commons Broadcasting System.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the terms of the order. Is there unanimous consent for its adoption?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.
Motion agreed to.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 22

[English]

CANADIAN RADIO-TELEVISION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

NORTHERN NATIVE BROADCASTING POLICY

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane-Superior): Mr. Speaker, I commend the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission for its northern native broadcasting policy which was announced on December 19. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that native broadcasters have fair access to

a reasonable amount of quality broadcast time in order to foster the maintenance and development of native cultures and languages in Canada.

The CBC was mentioned in the CRTC report as having a role to play in providing improved access for native broadcasting. In that report the CRTC indicated its awareness of the concerns raised with respect to the cancellation of the CBC radio program *Our Native Land*. The CRTC stated in its report that this issue will be taken up with the CBC at its next licence renewal hearing. I interpret this to mean that Mr. Juneau and the CBC have been given a black eye for cancelling *Our Native Land*—and never has a shiner been so well deserved.

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THE ECONOMY

ADMINISTRATION'S RECORD

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops-Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) is obviously puzzled by his Government's drastic decline in public support, yet he need look no further than the thrust of the explanations offered by his former Minister of State for Transport when she complained that Quebec's needs were not adequately considered in the Government's decision-making process.

The same must be said for the regions of Canada for which the Government's job creation record is somewhat abysmal. When it comes to jobs, the Government has focused on southern Ontario at the expense of the other regions of Canada. The Prime Minister has admitted his regional development programs have been less than successful, and on the weekend the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) admitted that the regions had fared rather poorly in previous months.

This is hardly surprising when the three most senior economic Ministers, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Regional and Economic Expansion (Mr. Stevens), and the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Miss MacDonald) are drawn from southern Ontario.

In vast areas of Canada a return to economic prosperity still seems a long way off. In fact many areas are still struggling in the depths of a recession. Many Canadians feel they have been ignored by the Government and that their interests and concerns have received little attention.

In the upcoming Cabinet shuffle of the Prime Minister I hope he would endeavour to appoint economic Ministers who know, understand, and are sensitive to Canada's regions. This will demonstrate for all to see that the Prime Minister's vision