

The Hon. the Acting Speaker: Is it your pleasure, honourable senators, to adopt the motion?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Motion agreed to, and report adopted.

PRIVILEGES, STANDING RULES AND ORDERS

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ADOPTED

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the consideration of the Fifth Report of the Committee on Privileges, Standing Rules and Orders (privilege—Senator Carney, P.C.), presented in the Senate on May 6, 1993. — (*Honourable Senator Molgat*).

Hon. Gildas L. Molgat (Deputy Leader of the Opposition): Honourable senators, I wish to thank Senator Corbin, who in my absence, moved the adjournment of this debate for me. I wanted the chance to read what Senator Carney had to say following our report. I had an opportunity to read her comments and those of Senator Grimard. I participated in the work of the committee, which I think did a very good job. I do not propose continuing the discussion any longer. I think that we should adopt the report.

Hon. John Lynch-Staunton (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, on behalf of Senator Grimard, I move the adoption of this report.

The Hon. the Acting Speaker: Honourable senators, is it your pleasure to adopt the motion?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Motion agreed to, and report adopted.

[English]

• (1640)

THE GOVERNMENT

RECORD OF ADMINISTRATION FROM 1984 TO 1993—INQUIRY—DEBATE CONTINUED

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the inquiry of the Honourable Senator Frith calling the attention of the Senate to the disastrous record of the Mulroney administration from 1984, when it first broke faith with the Canadian people, to 1993, when the Prime Minister announced his resignation. — (*Honourable Senator Frith*).

Hon. Royce Frith (Leader of the Opposition): Today, Part 10: How Michael (GST) Wilson wrestled with the deficit, which, as we saw, was not a very important matter for the Mulroney team during the general election campaign.

Our examination of Mr. Wilson's performance is not just an exercise in nostalgia. No longer Minister of Finance, Mr. Wilson continues to sit as a key member of Mr. Mulroney's inner cabinet, with Kim Campbell and Jean Charest. He is now in charge of our NAFTA negotiations with the United States and Mexico, where he can again spark another disaster for Canada.

His legacy as Finance Minister continues its importance beyond the misery it has left throughout the country; it is a legacy that the two 1993 frontrunners in the Conservative leadership race have adopted as their own.

The Scene: Kim Campbell presents on April 29, 1993, her economic policy proposals. She begins by praising Mr. Mazankowski's most recent budget and then says: "I am totally supportive of the government's economic direction first laid out by Michael Wilson and consistently followed since then." As far as the government's economic and fiscal record, she says, "I am proud of that record," and then boasts that she "sat on the Expenditure Review Committee of Cabinet."

She was proud of Mr. Wilson's record, and Michael Wilson is equally proud of her. Less than two weeks later, he announced he was supporting Ms Campbell's leadership bid. Why? Because, "I think she is very much committed to the [economic] policies that I have been very much a part of in recent years." That is from the *Toronto Star* of May 11, 1993.

It is clearly time to ask about those policies. What are they, the ones that they are all talking about and which Ms Campbell is committed to, and what have they accomplished for Canada, because she obviously means to continue them if she is successful this weekend. Let's start with the big picture.

Mulroneyites, under the guidance of Finance Minister Michael Wilson, and later Don Mazankowski, accomplished in eight years what all previous prime ministers and finance ministers combined could not accomplish in 117 years. Wilson and Mazankowski managed to earn that doubtful prize by spending more than \$1 trillion. Seventeen prime ministers from Macdonald to Turner, governing since Confederation, spent \$900 billion over 117 years. Along come these Mulroneyites: Wilson, Mazankowski, Campbell, Charest and other luminaries and they manage to spend more than \$1 trillion in eight years. It is hard to believe that a government trying to pass itself off as frugal and fiscally responsible and conservative could spend so much, but it did. It spent \$1 trillion in eight years, more than everyone had spent in 117 years.