

● (1125)

Since I do not have enough time to dwell on these, my colleagues on this side will dwell on some of the other matters throughout the day. The burden of payroll taxes should be reduced. We will look at ways to seek equitable tax measures that do not penalize labour-intensive industries like tourism. We shall develop a national tourism plan in co-operation with the provinces, utilizing the destination resort areas concept.

We will ensure departmental co-operation so that all federal decisions are arrived at with the complete understanding of their effects on tourism. Further steps will be taken to upgrade the status of tourism within the federal bureaucracy in order to protect the entrepreneur from potentially damaging government programs and legislation. In other words, to establish an advocacy role in the various other government departments. To this end, a Progressive Conservative Government shall establish in each relevant department a tourist co-ordinator to act as that advocate. We will provide incentives to promote the growth and development of a family owned tourism business in all regions to take advantage of Canada's tourist potential.

The list of our specific initiatives in policies which we will be outlining goes on and on. Since I am running out of time, I just want to repeat one major point. An election may not take place until a year from now or it may take place in August or November. We cannot wait for a Progressive Conservative Government which understands tourism and would take the necessary steps to deal with the problem. On behalf of the Conservative Party, I call on the Liberal Government to take action now in respect to cost competitiveness, to take action now to sit down with the provinces and start freezing and reducing, wherever possible, tourism taxes in order to be able to permit that advertising campaign in the United States which the Minister has just launched to become effective.

If it will not be cost competitive for tourists to come to Canada from the United States or elsewhere, I repeat that no matter how many millions of tax dollars the Minister will use in advertising, it will not attract tourists to this country. Not only do I call on the Minister and the Government to act now, but I plead with them because we are talking about jobs, we are talking about the economy as a whole and we are talking about the well-being of Canada.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Herbert):** There is a ten-minute question period permitted, but it has been our practice for the first round of speakers to speak before questions are put. However, it is the option of the House. If it wishes a ten-minute question period, there can be.

**Mr. McCauley:** Mr. Speaker, I listened with some interest to what the Hon. Member for Halton (Mr. Jelinek) was saying. I was wondering if he was ever going to get around to suggesting policy alternatives. I thought he spent a lot of time criticizing and very little time offering solutions, but toward the end of his address he did begin to deal with solutions. He outlined a shotgun approach in terms of what his side would do if they ever did form a government. What, in his opinion, are

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the three main policies that his Party would introduce with regard to tourism?

**Mr. Jelinek:** Mr. Speaker, I do not know where the Hon. Member was during the last 10 or 15 minutes of my comments when I outlined the policies that the Conservative Party will take when we form the government. If I could be very brief in answering, it would be to deal with overtaxation, to deal with overtaxation, and to deal with overtaxation of the tourist industry, plus all of the other initiatives which I outlined in my speech.

**Mr. Manly:** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member for Halton (Mr. Jelinek) rightly pointed out that the tourist industry is very labour intensive. Many tourist areas are also very low-wage areas. Some of them have right-to-work legislation which undercuts the role of unions in establishing decent wage levels. Our Party is very much opposed to this legislation. Would the Hon. Member for Halton give his opinion on right-to-work legislation and whether he opposes it?

● (1130)

**Mr. Jelinek:** Mr. Speaker, if we had to depend on the policies and wishes of the New Democratic Party, the tourist industry deficit in this country would not be \$2.1 billion. There would be a \$6 billion deficit.

**Mr. Manly:** Mr. Speaker, I asked a very straight-forward question, whether the Hon. Member for Halton supports or opposes right-to-work legislation. That is very germane to a debate about tourism. We in this Party, the House and the Canadian people would like an answer, not further diatribes about the NDP.

**Mr. Jelinek:** What a ridiculous statement, Mr. Speaker! I will speak for myself in respect of the right to work. In Canada people should have the right to work whenever they want to work. I believe that people in Canada should have the right to do whatever they want in this free country. I was forced to escape from a country that was run by philosophies of the nature of the New Democratic Party. I escaped from that country to come to a country that has the rights and freedoms that are honoured in this country.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Harquail:** Mr. Speaker, it is very good that the Canadian people can observe the lead speaker for the Official Opposition, the critic on the subject of tourism, giving what has to be termed a shameful performance this morning. He admits that it has been one year since he last raised this important issue. He did not bother to talk about the fact that this involves \$16.5 billion for the economy of this country and over 100,000 businesses. This is very important. The Hon. Member did not say anything about the attractiveness, the resources and the reasons people come to Canada. He offered nothing of a positive nature concerning what this beautiful country has to offer in the sense of the tourism attractions.