

Where is the NDP on this? What sort of policies do the NDP have? Where are the principles of the New Democratic Party?

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• (1430)

TOURISM

Mr. Bob Wood (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of State for Tourism who is just going to hop in his seat.

In the 1989 federal budget the government announced that it would not be renewing the ERDA subagreements for tourism development. Yet, recent newspaper reports out of Newfoundland say the province will be getting a new tourism subagreement with the federal government.

Will the minister finally tell the House what the government's position is with respect to the ERDA subagreements. If one province gets one, will the same courtesy be extended to every province?

Hon. Tom Hockin (Minister of State (Small Businesses and Tourism)): Mr. Speaker, I would ask my hon. friend to follow a little more carefully the developments in Ontario.

We have through the FedNor program in northern Ontario, which is his part of the world, brought forward a very important new program which we hope will be co-ordinated with the provinces to some degree. Also, we have just announced a new tourism component of FedNor of \$14 million which is going to help Ontario enormously, so I do not know what the hon. member is complaining about.

Mr. Bob Wood (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is to the same minister.

The minister this week said and I quote: "We gain much more than just economic activity and monetary benefits from tourism." In light of the fact that Canada's share of the world travel market has been cut in half over the last decade and the Tourism Industry Association of Canada has called for a promotion budget of at least \$50 million, why has this government slashed the tourism promotion budget from \$35 million to \$20 million?

Hon. Tom Hockin (Minister of State (Small Businesses and Tourism)): Mr. Speaker, here are the facts. From the middle 1970s to 1985—

Oral Questions

Some hon. members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hockin: The hon. member should hear this. Part of it he will find interesting and some might disappoint him. From 1975 to 1985 Canada's market share of world and American tourism dropped to half. In 1985 we decided to ask the American market first what was wrong? The Americans told us: "You have no image. We know about your moose, we know about your mountains, we know about your Mounties but after that, we don't know enough about you."

For the last four years Tourism Canada has promoted the image of Canada as an interesting and exciting country with good value for the dollar. We revealed a study last week from Longwoods International which indicates that Americans now believe that Canada is a more interesting and exciting country and better value for the dollar.

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FISHERIES

Hon. William Rompkey (Labrador): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Prime Minister, my question is for the Deputy Prime Minister.

Yesterday the Prime Minister met with the President of Spain and received vague promises to study fish stocks which have been heavily overstudied and heavily overfished.

I would like to know why the Government of Canada is satisfied with promises of study from Spain and why it is afraid to take tough and effective action against a nation that is overfishing important fish stocks off the Atlantic coast. Why is that?

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. gentleman could cite any firm decisive and tough action that was taken in the years prior to 1984, we would be delighted to hear it.

All he did was give 9,500 tonnes of good northern cod within the 200-mile limit to the European community. We have stopped that. We did not renew that.

With respect to yesterday's meeting, *The Toronto Star* says: "The PM fails to secure a pledge from Spain to stop overfishing."

The Ottawa Citizen says: "Spanish PM agrees overfishing must end."