

*S. O. 31*

search and rescue, scientific research and to keep northern seas open year round.

This government has betrayed British Columbians and northerners by renegeing on a signed deal that was reaffirmed repeatedly by senior ministers.

B.C. Tory MPs have failed to represent British Columbians. I call on the junior Associate Minister of National Defence, who repeatedly confirmed *Polar 8* would go ahead, to resign.

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[*Translation*]

### MINING EXPLORATION

**Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, I am one of the members who worked to set up the Canadian Exploration Incentive Program in 1987-88. On December 11, 1989, I said in this House: "The CEIP expires on December 31, 1990, and today I am worried about the survival of this program."

Yesterday, we learned in the Budget that this program was cancelled as of midnight February 19, 1990. We lose the contribution equal to 30 per cent of the cost of mining, oil and gas exploration financed by flow-through shares.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to make it clear that we are maintaining the resource deduction. Flow-through shares will continue to help mining companies that are starting up to attract investors. The tax system for expenditures makes it possible to recover all pre-production costs before a new mine starts to pay tax, and I am really disappointed about losing this program.

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[*English*]

### THE BUDGET

**Mr. Fred J. Mifflin (Bonavista—Trinity—Conception):** Mr. Speaker, a most distasteful measure in the Wilson budget yesterday was the so-called management initiative to take away \$35 million from Canadian veterans.

Five thousand of them under chronic care will have to pay \$3,000 each, and a total of \$17.3 million for their care as part of what the government euphemistically calls updating the lodging program.

In another initiative, 60,000 living at home will lose help provided for heavy housecleaning because of an \$18 million cut for this key program to aging veterans to which the government refers as streamlining.

• (1410)

This government action flies in the face of a Remembrance Day statement by the Minister of Veterans Affairs which he opened by emphasizing "just how much is owed to those who did their duty for their country in war". Is this another sacred trust gone astray?

This is not what I call a management initiative. It is a shameful and disgraceful way to shift the burden of deficit reduction on the backs of those who can least afford it, and in this case, most specifically on the backs of those who have already more than paid their dues.

Veterans deserve better. They will fight back once again.

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### THE BUDGET

**Mr. Peter L. McCreath (South Shore):** Mr. Speaker, the soothsayers of gloom and doom are already criticizing the federal budget, but then that was predictable.

Let's face it, if this government brought rain to end a drought, the Liberals and the NDP would complain about it.

The fact is that the Minister of Finance has done his job and done it well. Seventy per cent of the spending cuts are consumed within federal spending. Provinces whose spending growth has far exceeded that of the Government of Canada are being asked to pay their share. After all, if you are part of the problem, shouldn't you be part of the solution?

Atlantic Canadians should be pleased to see that this budget recognizes regional differences in Canada and, accordingly, has shielded Atlantic Canadians from the toughest aspects of a needed tough budget. A province like Nova Scotia need only restrain its spending in line with federal restraint and there will be no need for increased taxes at the provincial level or program cuts to go with no federal taxes.

Congratulations, Mike, on a job well done.