

"Let the Liberal Party go out in a blaze of spending and let the Conservatives, who will form the next Government, pick up the pieces." I am sure that the Canadian public will recognize this subterfuge for the dastardly trick it is and, at the first available opportunity, make known its displeasure at the polls.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS

CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO FUNDS FOR NEWFOUNDLAND CONNE RIVER INDIANS

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands): Madam Speaker, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, by his indifference to the needs of the Conne River Indian people, has forced them to take the drastic action of occupying the office of the Newfoundland Minister of Rural Development. Last spring the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development said he would ensure that funds voted for the Indian people of Newfoundland would reach the Conne River people without unacceptable conditions being imposed by the Newfoundland Government. This spring the Minister has completely caved in to the Newfoundland Government and reneged on his earlier commitments. The conditions set by the Newfoundland Government for the receipt of funds would prejudice the Conne River court case against the federal Government. I now hear that a representative of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development helped the Newfoundland Government to draft those unacceptable pre-conditions.

This backroom dealing, which ignores the urgent needs of the Conne River people, must stop. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development must meet immediately with the Conne River people and the Government of Newfoundland to ensure that the funds voted by Parliament reach the people they were intended to help.

The Cabinet must act immediately to register the Conne River people so that they can get the rights that are due to them as to other Indian people of Canada, as is only fair.

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[Translation]

THE BUDGET

ADVANTAGES OF CANADIAN HOME OWNERSHIP STIMULATION PROGRAM

Mr. Jean-Guy Dubois (Lotbinière): Some time ago, Madam Speaker, I asked the Minister of Finance (Mr. Lalonde) a question about the Canadian Home Ownership Stimulation Plan. I had received many representations from builders in my riding, from people directly or indirectly involved in that field

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who wanted the Canadian Government to know that this plan, under which \$3,000 grants are made available to people who want to buy a new house or have a new one built, had gained wide acceptance and made it possible to boost appreciably the number of housing starts and to provide additional work for construction workers. Here is a typical example: on my own street, Madam Speaker, four new houses were under construction not so long ago. I am pleased to be able to say to my constituents today that the Minister of Finance did listen to my representations. An additional amount of \$30 million has been earmarked for that plan, which will spur construction until the month of May. I also believe that this plan offers great opportunities in all ridings, yours included, Madam Speaker, I am sure of that. I even see that my friend from Nepean-Carleton (Mr. Baker) fully agrees with me and is certainly proud of the plan. The Minister of Finance listened and paid attention to our representations about this plan, and I am quite pleased about that.

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[English]

NEW EMPLOYMENT EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

PLEA FOR PRESERVATION OF EXISTING NATIONAL DEFENCE JOBS

Mr. Howard Crosby (Halifax West): Madam Speaker, let me bring to the attention of the House of Commons the plight of a resident of Halifax West who was robbed of his job because of an employment fraud being perpetrated by the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Axworthy) and the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Lamontagne).

This person was employed at a National Defence installation and was laid off March 25, 1983, after being given one week's notice. The purpose of the lay-off was to allow the Department of National Defence to hire additional employees pursuant to the NEED Program. This employment fraud is being perpetrated so that the Government can pretend to be hiring 3,000 employees while, in fact, it is dismissing over 1,000 employees from their jobs that have existed over a three-year period.

If we allow this sort of fraud to be perpetrated in the name of job creation, we will be destroying the faith of thousands of Canadians not only in the Government of Canada but in the Parliament of Canada. I urge the Minister of Employment and Immigration and the Minister of National Defence to stop this Program right now and preserve the jobs of the people who have been faithful employees for the Government over a three-year period.