

**Mr. Mulroney:** As the Minister mentioned, 580,000 new jobs have been created. The Minister of State for Youth and all Ministers are collaborating to ensure that even further jobs are created.

#### GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT TO YOUTH

**Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor-Walkerville):** Mr. Speaker, does the Prime Minister not think that it might be useful for the youth of the country, much less the House of Commons, if he answered the question? Where is the indication of commitment to youth, seen as necessary as a result of two task forces, in this Government? Is it manifest in the kind of support it gives to the Minister of State for Youth who has neither program nor budget?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, nothing could better indicate the difference between a socialist and a conservative. When he is talking about programs for youth, he is thinking of a bureaucracy, and we are thinking about jobs.

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

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Broadbent:** That must be an all-time low.

**Mr. Blackburn (Brant):** If you don't need her, why keep her?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

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#### CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD

##### INITIAL GRAIN PRICES INQUIRY

**Mr. Bill Gottselig (Moose Jaw):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for the Canadian Wheat Board. My constituents have expressed concerns regarding the United States Farm Bill and the probable effect it will have on the initial price of wheat. There is a good deal of concern and a cloud of uncertainty hanging over the farm community in western Canada these days. What can the Minister indicate to the House regarding initial grain prices for the 1986-87 crop year?

**Hon. Charles Mayer (Minister of State (Canadian Wheat Board)):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member raises a very serious situation. Everyone who understands the U.S. Farm Bill, and particularly what the European Community is doing as far as subsidies are concerned, realizes that we face a very difficult situation. The Hon. Member should know that in Europe, for instance, the subsidy on wheat is over \$100 per tonne, and on barley it is something like \$130 per tonne. We find that very difficult to compete with. However, I can tell the Hon. Member that we are facing the issue and we will do the very best we can. We expect to be able to announce initial prices at

#### Oral Questions

the usual time, which is some time at the end of March or the beginning of April.

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[Translation]

#### THE BUDGET

##### REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT DECLARE MONTREAL A DESIGNATED REGION

**Hon. André Ouellet (Papineau):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. The Government likes to take credit for creating thousands of jobs in Montreal. Is the Minister of Finance ready to recognize that his Government is responsible for the loss of tens of thousands of jobs in Montreal and why did he not declare Montreal, especially East Montreal, a designated zone in his Budget, as many people had asked him to do?

[English]

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I am not sure from where the Hon. Member is getting his statistics. Since September, 1984, 70,000 jobs have been created in the city of Montreal. I believe that that is 13 times greater than the jobs created during the course of the previous Government. As far as Montreal is concerned, the Hon. Member is very much aware of the fact that we have said that we want to discuss the possibility of creating an international banking centre for that city. That is something of which I think he would be very supportive.

[Translation]

##### CREATION OF JOBS IN MONTREAL—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Hon. André Ouellet (Papineau):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance seems to believe that the Banking Centre, which could eventually create 35 jobs in two years, is not the answer, but, and my question is very specific, what concrete action will the Minister take now to help the former workers of Bombardier, Vickers, Lafarge and La Fonderie who, in spite of the figures quoted by the Minister, are now unemployed and waiting for concrete action to be taken so that they may find employment in Montreal?

[English]

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member must understand that jobs are created by a healthy private sector, a private sector which is investing and growing because it has confidence in the direction of the policies of the Government, as has been demonstrated by the 70,000 jobs created in the Montreal area. That is what will make the number of jobs grow, not a lot of bureaucracy in Ottawa trying to dream up ways which have been proven not to work under the previous Liberal administration.