

*The Address—Mr. Malépart*

That being said, Mr. Speaker, today I would like to compare the present Speech from the Throne to the Speech from the Throne we had in 1984. Mr. Speaker, I wish the House would look at the words in the 1986 speech regarding social justice and the same words that appear in the 1984 speech.

Mr. Speaker, as far as the writing is concerned, there are plenty of people in Canada who write well and who can write a nice story, but, Mr. Speaker, what is there in terms of tangible content? They say that the past is our guarantee for the future, but look at what happened to social justice under this Conservative Government and this Prime Minister, after what they said in the Speech from the Throne, look at the reality and at the reasons why we are now starting a new session.

About social justice and the elderly, Mr. Speaker, just a while ago, the Minister of State for Youth (Mr. Charest) scolded me for rising in the House to criticize the Government, Mr. Speaker. But I was proud to rise in support of the elderly, to save their Old Age Security pension cheques, while the Minister of State for Youth was busy protecting his own little portfolio.

Mr. Speaker, everyone will recall what the Prime Minister said during the election campaign. Everyone remembers what the Minister of social injustice and the Prime Minister said here in the House, and the Speech from the Throne and the blue Book on consultation and the nation-wide betrayal of our senior citizens. The first time senior citizens were betrayed and deceived by this Government was when family allowances were de-indexed. And the second time, Mr. Speaker, again in the Speech from the Throne, senior citizens were discriminated against, those between the ages of 60 and 64, with respect to the spouse's allowance. Once again, Mr. Speaker, all elderly Canadians—mostly women—in every single riding from sea to sea have heard this Government deliberately refuse to declare them eligible under the Old Age Security pension program simply because they had to separate, because they preferred to remain single, or because they were forced to seek a divorce. Mr. Speaker, this Government, including the Prime Minister and his social injustice Cabinet colleague, deliberately perpetuate such inequity, and now they are trying to make elderly Canadians believe that the 1986 Speech from the Throne is even better than the one we got in 1984. Mr. Speaker, we need look no further than what happened to the early retirees who expected to get their unemployment benefits in 1985 and 1986. Again thousands of Canadian men and women were penalized, they were deceived by this Government with regard to benefit cut-backs, with the result that some of them lost as much as \$10,000. More phoney promises and more phoney commitments from this Government, Mr. Speaker. The 1984 Speech from the Throne was long on rhetoric, as is the 1986 Speech from the Throne. They said the same thing about the New Horizons Program, Mr. Speaker: When it comes to elderly Canadians, we will never do anything to harm them. Well, Mr. Speaker, behind their backs the Prime Minister and his Government did slash the benefits of elderly Canadians. During the first two years of this Government, not a single Conservative Member or Minister had the courage to rise in defence of our senior citizens.

Mr. Speaker, we should also recall the commitments made by the Prime Minister in the 1984 Speech from the Throne, particularly with respect to Canadian families, the cornerstone of our society, he said. The Prime Minister is never at a loss for words, they flow like money which is no problem when he wants to take his butler along on his world-wide trips. So what happened to Canadian families, Mr. Speaker? In 1984 the Prime Minister promised that the House would look after Canadian families, but he ended up de-indexing family allowances while at the same time introducing legislation to rescue Western Canada millionnaires from a bank failure. So much for the intellectual integrity of this Government and this Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker, and today in 1986 they would have us believe that people will swallow this piece of trash. Mr. Speaker, the child tax credit changes have victimized, middle-income families.

Mr. Speaker, senior citizens were deceived by this Government in 1984, and the Members opposite are now trying to make us believe . . . Look at what has been written. There are no concrete results. Families were deceived in 1984, Mr. Speaker.

What about young Canadians, Mr. Speaker? As a consolation prize, after two years of inaction, the Minister has been demoted.

**Mr. Pierre Blais (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture):** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** The Hon. Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture on a point of order.

**Mr. Blais:** Mr. Speaker, I have just heard a term which, although perhaps not unparliamentary, is totally inappropriate under the circumstances, namely "a piece of trash", which was used to describe the Throne Speech read by the Governor General of Canada, and I believe that the Hon. Member for Montreal—Sainte-Marie (Mr. Malépart) should withdraw this vulgar and inappropriate term.

**An Hon. Member:** Mr. Speaker, that is not a point of order.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** One moment, please.

• (1640)

[*English*]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** I regret to say that I did not hear any word that was unparliamentary and I feel that it is not a point of order. Is the Hon. Member for Bourassa (Mr. Rossi) rising on a point of order?

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Rossi:** On the same point of order. Mr. Speaker, how can this Hon. Member, who was not even in the House, rise on a point of order about a word which he may not even have heard, because he hastened to ask his colleague the Hon. Member for Beauharnois—Salaberry (Mr. Hudon) whether he had said that word. The Hon. Member rose on a point of order, although he was not even in the House.