

S.O. 21

this House, whether there is a commitment to preserve and promote the salmon stocks and the commercial industry in B.C. The lobby members share my concern about the Department's inaction on a number of issues such as Kemano II and the destruction of the Skeena and Fraser River habitat; Amax; Quinsam coal; offshore drilling; Dome's LNG Project; Ridley Island development; twin tracking along the Fraser and Thompson, and many others.

In particular, the Government's supine position on Kemano II reveals just how readily corporations, such as Alcan, can buy entire watersheds through campaign donations to Liberal and Conservative coffers. Surely it is only fair to have a full public inquiry into a project that would in total take 88 per cent of the water out of the Nechako river system.

The entire fishing industry, from those who take the fish from the water to those who haul the finished product, including those who own the processing industry, are opposed to Alcan's Kemano plans.

I urge, on behalf of the fishermen here today and Canadians from coast to coast, that Alcan's proposal come before a full public inquiry, with funding for interveners, and that the Minister, when he finds time to come back into Parliament, go on record opposing habitat destruction and commit his Government to at least a \$200 million salmon stream rehabilitation project for British Columbia.

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FINANCE

ALLOCATION OF JOB-CREATION FUNDS

Mr. Jim Hawkes (Calgary West): Mr. Speaker, today I wish to bring to the attention of the House the morality or immorality of Finance Ministers using the Budget, taxpayers' money, to porkbarrel job-creation funds to Liberal Members and Liberal held ridings only.

I would like to remind the House of the use by the previous Finance Minister of the Budget, to provide funds to former Cabinet Ministers and his own riding through the Coalgate affair. What about the use of \$200 million so the present Minister could save his own face? Now there is another clear-cut porkbarrel by the present Finance Minister of \$300 million, spread over two budgets, over 15 different government Departments, in the Special Employment Initiatives Program. As well, taxpayers' funds are to be spent by 15 Cabinet Ministers to advance their own leadership aspirations, and one-half million dollars is set aside for every one of the 147 Liberal Members to give to their friends in an attempt to win re-election.

We must ask, Mr. Speaker, if local Liberal riding presidents and organizers in Opposition-held ridings have been asked to spend their \$500,000 for the good of the Liberal Party of Canada. This is a half-baked one-half million dollar porkbarrel, Liberal riding by Liberal riding, that casts doubt upon the morality of the whole budgeting process in our country. How can we have any confidence in the future of this country—

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry to interrupt the Hon. Member, but his time has expired.

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NATIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

NON-ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

Mr. Jack Shields (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, in the 1980 Budget, the then Minister of Finance announced the creation of a \$4 billion Western Grain Development Fund to help modernize the western grain handling and transportation system. In 1981 the then Minister of Finance re-profiled the Western Development Fund and indicated that \$345 million was to be set aside from this Fund for native economic development; \$75 million to be spent in 1982-83, \$80 million in 1983-84, \$90 million in 1984-85, and \$100 million in 1985-86. To date, from talking to members of Treaty Eight and other Indian bands across the country, I have learned none of these funds have been made available to Indian bands for economic development.

● (1410)

I thought I would point out to the Speaker and to Members of the House that the Indians are now referring to this fund as "phantom Loto 345—write a letter, write a proposal, burn it, let it go up in smoke, and somehow some phantom will appear with the funds requested for economic development on the reserves. The plight of native people on the reserves with regard to jobs is despicable.

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Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I rise on the issue raised in those newspaper articles which refer to the fact that Grit ridings have received over \$500,000 each for job plans. The same articles refer to the fact that the money comes from the grants and contributions program. In a letter that we received from the Minister's office, referring to that program, it states:

The Employment Creation Grants and Contributions facility in CEIC provides a mechanism to fast-track job-creation projects to ensure maximum economic benefit. Unlike some other CEIC program areas, Grants and Contributions were not allocated on a constituency basis and, thus, were not the subject of formal consultation with Members of Parliament.

If the letter that we received from the Minister's office is telling the truth, then the statements made by various members of the Liberal back-bench, in which they said they received that money for their ridings, are a direct contradiction of what the Minister's office says. It means, if those back-benchers are telling the truth, there is a hell of a God damn boondoggle going on in this country at this time.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!