Certainly the question is legitimate. We must explain why the money is needed and what we are doing to deal with the management problem of these companies. That is what we are doing.

My hon. friend for Mississauga South reminds me of the person who tried to suck and blow at the same time. It is impossible to do. I suppose that people do attempt it, even in a parliamentary setting. From the way the Hon. Member phrased his question, one might assume that in spite of what his colleagues said, including the Hon. Member for Capilano (Mr. Huntington), deep down they did not want to vote this money and were ready to accept and agree to the implications of this happening. However, this is a matter for further debate. I want to repeat that questioning the amount and the motives is part of the parliamentary process and it is quite fair.

With respect to the second question, I believe my hon. friend is trying to compare two different things. If the Department of Fisheries advertises for the purpose of encouraging Canadians to buy and eat more fish, this does not mean that it is not interested in cleaning the silt off gravel beds. In my view, the Department has a number of purposes. One purpose is to preserve the fishery itself, the renewable resource in question. Another is to increase the market for the product of that resource. If that were not the case, the well-being of the fishermen in his province and other parts of Canada will not be maintained.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. The question period is over. Debate.

Hon. Ron Huntington (Capilano): Mr. Speaker, I have not put together a formal address, but in hearing the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Gray) this morning, we listened to a very well massaged, professionally written speech. One just keeps going back to one of the commandments of the Liberal Party of Canada and its mental guru concerning politics of Canada. It is that in politics, perception is reality. We heard a speech from one of the very senior Ministers of the Liberal Government in which he spent ten minutes still talking about six and five, which most of us, I in particular, agreed with. I had a little more courage than the Government because I said that we should move from six and five to four and three, which would have then kept pressure on a system that desperately needs to be corrected.

When questioning the President of the Treasury Board, we mentioned the fact that in his rhetoric he talked about getting top value for the taxpayers' dollar. I noticed that he stumbled and choked a few times when he was reading his address. He must have trouble with some of this rhetoric because I know that the President of the Treasury Board is a very, very hardworking man. He and I do not agree in ideological terms and in terms of the way the country should be run for the well-being of the greatest number of Canadians. We have watched 15 years of his ideology being imposed upon the Canadian people and we have seen the system lose opportunities in the expansion of natural resources. We have seen a work force decline with 1.5 million unemployed. I read just the other day that the work force, if you take the true account of it, contains over two million unemployed because at least half a million people have given up trying to get jobs.

• (1140)

Today we are in very serious condition. We have a lot of young people coming out of educational systems who are not really properly trained and equipped for what lies ahead. We have a national attitude that is leaving us outside of the ball game in terms of the newly emerging industrial world.

What is interfering with and impeding a substantial, meaningful, purposeful recovery in Canada that would start to correct some of these very serious problems we have is government spending. Government spending is at the core and heart of the problem. Government spending has grown from 16.8 per cent of GNP since 1968 to 24.2 per cent of GNP in 1982. Government spending is up this year to 26 per cent of GNP. If we look at the total levels of government spending and we bring federal and provincial spending together, we notice that it has grown from 33.7 per cent of GNP to 47 per cent, and 47 per cent is getting awfully close to 50 per cent of GNP in the form of total government spending in Canada. That is a burden choking us in terms of bringing about a proper recovery.

Let us look back to *The Globe and Mail* for March 5. We find that an axe hangs over social welfare programs in all OECD countries. Although they just love to label me a red-neck and a right-wing idiot here in Ottawa, I throw out, and you have heard me, Sir, warning after warning after warning that if we continue down this growing path of government intervention over the wealth-creating sector of the country, we will not be able to sustain the very enviable across the board social welfare programs that we have.

The President of the Treasury Board knows as well as I do that the underpinning of the whole pension plan, the CPP and everything else that we have, has teredo-ridden piles. Yet we in this avalanche of government spending and government interference with all our lives are just suffocating any ability to create the wealth we need to sustain the system.

When the President of the Treasury Board today stood up and read that well-massaged speech, he ruined a very valuable speech which I have spent time trying to prepare. He threw me completely off base which, I guess, was his plan. The President of the Treasury Board talked about more pilot projects. He talked about federal statistics and regulation and removing red tape as part of his program. He talked about a new working environment within the Government that will correct the productivity problems within it. I am not allowed to talk about productivity in the federal Government out loud, but obviously the President of the Treasury Board recognizes—he has to recognize because the Auditor General has been putting it on the public record for years now—that there are productivity problems, morale and attitudinal problems existing within the Public Service. Strictly management problems and failure have caused this condition.