

*Oral Questions***NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS**

REQUEST THAT PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY BE REPLACED

Ms. Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. Is the Prime Minister aware that at the very time he was in Brussels hearing from the President of the United States about new efforts at the Summit to reach international understanding, stability and peace, two of his caucus colleagues were displaying arrogance and scorn toward the Physicians for Social Responsibility and other Canadian groups—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Crosbie: Nonsense.

Ms. Jewett:—engaged in the same search? Will the Prime Minister ask his colleagues to refrain from destroying legitimate public input and, indeed, his own commitment to the search—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I believe the Hon. Member is raising again a matter which occurred in committee. I think she knows that that is really not a matter which should be raised here. Does the Hon. Member have a question of policy?

Ms. Jewett: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

May I preface my supplementary question by saying—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Ms. Jewett:—that this is based on newspaper accounts—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That does not help, either. I invite the Hon. Member to put a question.

Ms. Jewett: Would the Prime Minister at least consider replacing the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Defence with someone who is prepared to listen to Canadians' views about vital defence issues such as the prevention of nuclear war?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I think my hon. friend would probably agree with me—because we have been criticized for it—that there has probably never been a Government which has listened so carefully and so thoughtfully to Canadians, and that includes listening to the Hon. Members of the House. But particularly in the area of foreign affairs, with committees travelling across the country, with White Papers being presented, we have actively sought for, and obtained, the input of Canadians on this matter and we will continue to do so.

Ms. Jewett: Try your colleagues.

Mr. Mulroney: I think my colleagues on this side of the House require no lessons from members of the NDP.

Ms. Jewett: Well, it won't happen again, I hope.

Mr. Crosbie: Stop breaking the rules.

Mr. McKenzie: There's no place for communists in here.

An Hon. Member: Why don't you go back to South Africa where you belong?

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THE ECONOMY**ANNUAL OECD REPORT**

Mr. Geoff Wilson (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance and concerns the annual report of the OECD. The organization for Economic Co-operation and Development based in Paris conducts ongoing economic research and does analysis between and assessments of the economic performance of various countries in the world. At this time, generally, an annual report is forthcoming. Has the Minister received such a report? And if he has, how does Canada rate in the assessment of the OECD?

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member is quite right. At this time of year there is a report which is done by the OECD on the policy direction which the country has followed, as well as the economic prospects looking a year ahead. While I am not able to release this report at this point in time, I have seen a preliminary draft and I can assure the Hon. Member that the preliminary views expressed by the OECD are extremely positive as far as Canada is concerned. It has confirmed that the policy direction which we set out on November 8 last year in the Economic Agenda Paper is the right policy, and that it is producing tremendous results for Canada.

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AGRICULTURE**FARM DEBT—GOVERNMENT POSITION**

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. A week ago Saturday, 800 farmers demonstrated in front of the Minister's constituency office in St. Thomas to protest the lack of action on the farm debt crisis. Can the Minister say when the Government is going to take action as demanded by the seven responsible farm groups, on a comprehensive farm debt moratorium and farm credit arrangements legislation?

Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the representation made by the Hon. Member on the subject. He will know that we have taken to this point in time a long list of initiatives to benefit the agri-food industry and we are quite prepared to take further steps very shortly.