

Oral Questions

many times. There is no question that the Budget and the budgetary implications of what we have done with regard to the deficit through taxes and expenditures have been well received by the country, and that Canadians do believe that the Budget is fair.

LEVEL OF TAX PAYMENTS

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Would the Minister care to answer the question? Is it reasonable that persons with a \$2,040 taxable income should be required, in 1985, to pay \$190.30 in tax when in the previous year they were required to pay no tax because we believed that they could not afford to pay tax?

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, we have done more for the lower-income people than other Governments have done, and we intend to continue doing that. However, we are not doing Canadians any favours if we do not get rid of the deficit. The country knows that, and I wish the Hon. Member would admit it.

Mr. Deans: Where does the Minister propose that people with taxable income of \$2,040 should find an additional nearly—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I ask the Hon. Member to ensure he does not simply repeat the question.

Mr. Deans: Perhaps if you listened, you would find out.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Deans: Where does the Minister propose that a person with a taxable income of \$2,040 should be able to find \$200 more in a year to pay tax, when she knows full well that at that level of income they do not have that kind of money?

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order! That is exactly the same question.

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YOUTH

ANNOUNCEMENT OF GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

Mr. Roland de Corneille (Eglinton-Lawrence): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Deputy Prime Minister. It seems that the Government is going to shut this House down on Wednesday for a 10-day holiday without announcing a youth program—

Some Hon. Members: Order. Order.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: He doesn't even know the Standing Orders.

An Hon. Member: He doesn't understand the rule of the House.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! Question, please.

Mr. de Corneille:—ignoring the fact that Canadians of every age are focusing on Senator Hébert, who is still on a hunger strike on behalf of Katimavik and the youth of the country. Why does the Government not have a youth program ready for us now, or is it playing a political cat-and-mouse game with Senator Hébert and the young people of the country?

[Translation]

Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Secretary of State of Canada): Mr. Speaker, I responded earlier, and again I repeat our position: the Government of Canada will not hastily create a program, notwithstanding the famous reports which you have released and which you want us to take into consideration. We will not create a program because somebody is on a hunger strike.

[English]

REQUEST FOR ANNOUNCEMENT BEFORE EASTER RECESS

Mr. Roland de Corneille (Eglinton-Lawrence): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister. If the Government has a program which is at all worth-while, why does it not bring it before Parliament before the holiday, instead of ducking and stalling until the House shuts down?

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, obviously the hon. gentleman has been living with his head stuck in the sand. In the short time that the Government has been in office it has focused \$700 million on direct youth employment related programs. It has created 50,000 more jobs for young people. There was a net loss of jobs for the entire time during which that hon. gentleman sat as a member of the Government on this side. There has been more action since the change of Government with respect to youth employment than there was in the combined history of the Government when the Member was sitting on this side of the House.

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● (1425)

NATIONAL REVENUE

REPORTED SEIZURE OF CONVALESCENT'S BED

Mr. Simon de Jong (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Revenue. As he might know, last Thursday officials from his Department forced their way into the family home of Bill and Anna Rijswijch of Delta, British Columbia. Mrs. Rijswijch, recovering from major surgery, was forcibly removed from her bed and his officials then seized the bed. Can the Minister inform us the section of the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights this action comes under?

Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I want to inform Members of the House that I