

Supply

[Translation]

Mr. Vincent Della Noce (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I will try my luck once more with the Hon. Member for Hamilton East and see whether she could reply. Because she dared mention my riding, I will tell her something about it. If its name has been changed it is because we listened to the people. And it is the people who decided that their riding should be called Laval. After 25 years, it was time to grow up and so we did. Although Laval was established 25 years ago, the former name still prevailed. Nobody had thought of that. Today, my constituents find themselves in the Laval East riding instead of this other name which cannot even be found in the dictionary.

Also, the Hon. Member and her colleagues referred to a recession. There is a saying that a recession always begins in the car industry. Mr. Speaker, I visited the various car dealers in my riding. To my surprise, these car dealers responded so well that their statements covered two pages in the October 12 issue of this weekend's *Journal de Montréal*, the newspaper with the highest circulation in the province of Quebec. To make a long story short, it stated: "The car industry does not yet feel the pinch of the recession". Wait, for I have something even better for my hon. friend, following which I will ask her a question. Sylvie Dagenais, one of the very best car saleswoman in Laval stated and I quoted: "Business has never been so good. A recession? Never heard of it", said Sylvie Dagenais, President of Vimont Lexus Toyota. "I have never sold so many luxury cars. I am short of models just now. A Japanese sedan costing over \$65,000, that's fantastic!" Richard Johnson. Mrs. Dagenais, who is in charge of 5 dealerships, stated that she has never felt the effects of recession. "We are doing just fine. It is a question of attitude. We have build everything on customer service satisfaction—"

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Order, please! I must regretfully interrupt the Hon. Member, for there is only one minute left for the Hon. Member for Hamilton East to respond.

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, I assume that he does not believe either the National Bank, or the Desjardins Movement, or the Minister of Industry, Science and Technology who acknowledged, here in this House last week, that we were in a recession.

But if he does not believe either the minister, or the Desjardins Movement, or the National Bank, will he at least acknowledge what the officials of the Department of Industry, Science and Technology have been saying, that Montreal East now has the highest unemployment rate in Canada? And if that member representing one constituency from the Montreal area thinks that everything is fine, I would advise him to go back home and listen to the residents of Montreal East where the unemployment rate is over 20 per cent, Mr. Speaker. These 20 per cent unemployed workers do not trust a member who is not prepared to fight for the unemployed of his area. It is a disgrace! He should leave that job to someone who cares!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): The question and comment period is over. Resuming debate. The hon. Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Pierre H. Vincent (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to speak the opposition motion. This will give me the opportunity to review the events since 1984. I am convinced that we will hear some yelling and screaming from the opposition side. But, since 1984, we are used to their yelling and screaming.

The record of the Progressive Conservative Party as a government since 1984 is a success story. And I remember when—

Some hon. members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Vincent: You see, they start yelling, Mr. Speaker, I warned you. I remember that, in November 1984, the Minister of Finance had tabled his plan for an economic renewal that the government wanted to initiate. I remember the budget of May 1985, the one of February 1986, the ones of February 1987, of 1988, 1989 and 1990. On these seven occasions, the opposition members, both Liberals and New Democrats—I can print out in the Hansard—had forecasted two things: the loss of jobs and a recession. Every time on seven occasions during six years, they said the same thing. They just reshaped what they had said the previous year. In six years, we have had an exemplary economic situation in Canada: 1.6 million jobs created. In six years! We are first in terms of job creation among industrialized countries, and second, after Japan, in terms of economic growth! These are, Mr. Speaker, the results of the Minister of Finance's eco-