

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I will recognize the Hon. Member from Glengarry—Prescott—Russell (Mr. Boudria).

Mr. Boudria: Mr. Speaker, respectful of the rules as we all are, I do not believe you would want Hon. Members to be accused, indeed not the Hon. Member from Montreal—Sainte-Marie (Mr. Malépart), in the way the Member from Champlain (Mr. Champagne) just did, knowing it is against the rules to accuse anyone of being a hypocrit, this being said, Mr. Speaker, again in all due respect towards you.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I do not think that the Hon. Member from Champlain (Mr. Champagne) was accusing the Hon. Member from Montreal—Sainte-Marie (Mr. Malépart). No doubt his remarks were of a general nature.

Mr. Malépart: He is speaking of Conservative Members who are hypocrits.

Mr. Champagne (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, it is too bad my colleague for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell (Mr. Boudria) rose to speak, because as the saying goes, one should rather remain silent and look stupid than open up and prove it. That proof he just gave, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this morning and earlier today we heard the Hon. Member for Montreal—Sainte-Marie (Mr. Malépart) cry scandal. This is about the only thing which they can rely on right now, because as far as the economy is concerned, Mr. Speaker, everything goes well, very well indeed—676,000 jobs!

As far as social security is concerned, everything goes very well, Mr. Speaker. We maintained our social programs, we improved on them—widows' and widowers' pensions. And I know the Hon. Member for Montreal—Sainte-Marie, without being personal, agrees that we gave a supplement to Canadians widows and widowers aged 60 to 64.

Mr. Prud'homme: We are half-way there.

Mr. Champagne (Champlain): I know he supports that and applauded us. Of course, I also agree with him that more will have to be done. However, Mr. Speaker, we have only been here two and a half years, and we have done a courageous and remarkable job of straightening up the mess created by the Liberals over the years.

Mr. Speaker, they accused us this morning, I mean the Hon. Member for Laval-des-Rapides (Mr. Garneau) said: I do not understand why the Minister of Finance did not table a five-year plan to tell us where we are going. He has a short memory, Mr. Speaker. Very short indeed. The Liberals never reveal their true intentions to the Canadian people. During the 1980 campaign, they did not talk about the Energy Program, they did not say that they would reduce the VIA Rail passenger services by 20 per cent, they did not say that they would review the Crow rate. In fact, Mr. Speaker, during the electoral campaign, the Leader of the Opposition told everyone willing to listen that he would keep his new program secret until the day when he made a Speech from the Throne. You

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can see how inconsistent the opposition party is. Everything is so clear that you cannot see where you are going.

Mr. Speaker, I was listening to the Hon. Member for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell (Mr. Boudria). I know that my allotted time is nearly over, but I would simply like to remind the Hon. Member that when he speaks about scandals—

Mr. Malépart: One year and a half to go!

Mr. Champagne (Champlain): —we recall certain juicy contracts given to businesses managed by former ministers. We remember that, when he was asked by a reporter about the trips made by his family on certain airplanes, the former minister Gerald Regan, pointed out that such information is classified. We also remember the purchase of Petro-Canada. Since my allotted is nearly over, I would like to remind the Hon. Member of one thing, namely that one of the close friends of the former Prime Minister obtained the contract for the Washington embassy even though he was not one of the four people on the list for this contract.

Members of the Opposition speak about scandals, but since they are much worse than we are, I think that they should be saying: Do as we say, not as we do. In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to add that a responsible government took over the reins of the economy on September 4, 1984, and is now doing a great job of putting the Canadian economy back on its feet and of giving back to all Canadians the prosperity they deserve.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member for Montreal—Sainte-Marie (Mr. Malépart) on a question or a comment.

Mr. Malépart: Mr. Speaker, it is the swan song, the cry of a desperate and defeated man, a man who is becoming aware that his short career here in Ottawa, with a rating of 22 per cent at the national polls, and of 13 per cent in the province of Quebec—

An Hon. Member: What is his rating in Quebec?

Mr. Boudria: Did you say 13 per cent?

Mr. Hudon: The management of polls!

Mr. Malépart: —13 per cent in Quebec. And I am sure that in the Member's constituency, it is less than 10 per cent.

Mr. Boudria: There are more people who are undecided than there are Conservatives.

Mr. Malépart: Mr. Speaker, this poor Member was really pathetic. The first year, people said it was because of inexperience; the second year, it was ignorance; but now it is incompetence. Mr. Speaker, as to his unfounded statement that the Liberals wanted to limit the spouse's allowance to widows and widowers, if he knows how to read—or if he does not know, instead of reading speeches prepared for him, he should ask his assistant—he can find that the Liberals were committed to giving the pension to all those in need, whether single,