

Oral Questions

Mr. Tobin: That is what you are telling the people of Atlantic Canada, to shut up.

Some Hon. Members: You!

Mr. Speaker: I invite the Hon. Member to be quiet.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops-Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, perhaps there are some interesting people at Liberal gatherings, but the Conservative Premier of Prince Edward Island said the Atlantic Provinces got short circuited in the Budget. The Conservative Premier of Newfoundland said the other day that the Budget fails to address regional disparity.

The Minister of Finance has clearly indicated that if, there is undue hardship on senior citizens as a result of deindexing, the Government will reconsider that move. Will he, as a sensitive Minister for the Atlantic Provinces, in theory, have a look at the Budget provisions which impact negatively on that part of Canada?

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): You are pretty good in theory, Nelson, when you are across the floor.

Mr. Riis: This Budget is definitely biased against that part of Canada. Will he reconsider what it is doing to Atlantic Canada?

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Hon. Member to reconsider the question, because 10,000 jobs were created last month in the Province of Nova Scotia. So good things are happening in Atlantic Canada.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre): Members opposite wonder why these things are happening. They are happening because there is a good response to the philosophy and style of this Government and the direction it is following in encouraging—Mr. Speaker, it is hard to compete with the fog-horn on the other side of the floor.

The Atlantic Provinces, like all parts of the country, are responding positively to the direction the Government has been following since September 4, and will continue to respond positively as time goes by.

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NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS

FUTURE OF NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY

Mr. Reg Stackhouse (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Last year, the fortieth of the nuclear age, saw the world experience 35 nuclear explosions. The future of the Non-Proliferation Treaty depends to a great extent on the credibility of the nuclear powers. In light of the uncertain

future of the NPT, will the Minister support its future by calling upon all nations to cease and desist from further nuclear testing as a sincere way of showing support for the Non-Proliferation Treaty?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the review of the Non-Proliferation Treaty occurs, as the House knows, later this summer, in August and September, with an eye toward trying to achieve a successful result of that conference. Canada's Ambassador for Disarmament has been meeting with representatives of other countries, nuclear and non-nuclear powers, and through the Department of External Affairs we have been in touch with countries which are not yet signatories to the Treaty, urging that they affix their signatures to that document. We will continue to follow every means open to us to try to assure the regime of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF SASKATCHEWAN MINISTER OF REVENUE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

Mr. Speaker: May I indicate the presence in our gallery today of the Hon. Paul Rousseau, Minister of Revenue and Financial Services for the Province of Saskatchewan.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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ENERGY

PETROLEUM INCENTIVES PROGRAM

Mr. Russell MacLellan (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the fact that the Minister is meeting with her Nova Scotia counterpart this week, does she still stand by her commitment to that Minister that the Petroleum Incentives Program will be replaced by a frontier incentives program?

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, there are a number of items on the agenda for our talks tomorrow, and I am sure that in the course of those talks we will certainly be concentrating on the subject the Hon. Member has introduced.

REPLACEMENT INQUIRY

Mr. Russell MacLellan (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, first she says yes, and now she says she does not know. Who is speaking for the Government on energy matters? Is it the Minister? Is it the Minister of Justice, who said in Halifax that the Government has to be convinced a new incentive is needed? Is it the Minister of Finance, who told Members of the oil industry in the West that when it comes to