

*Oral Questions*

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, I do not think that the Hon. Member needs to go back to November of 1981 to find flip-flops. There was a much more recent one, as a matter of fact, and that was the one by Hon. Members of the NDP who, last Fall, were advocating reducing the deficit and, in the last few weeks, have been advocating a larger deficit. Therefore one does not have to go that far and must only look at one's own conscience. I would invite Hon. Members of the NDP, as a matter of fact, not even to look at their consciences, but simply to look at press clippings of what they were saying as recently as six months ago.

As far as the question of the Hon. Member is concerned, I want to assure him that the budget which I will be introducing tomorrow will be good for Canada.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

## REPORTED REALLOCATION OF DEPARTMENTS' FUNDS

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops-Shuswap):** Madam Speaker, we learned in the last number of hours that Treasury Board has been asking each Department to cut spending to provide money for a slickly designed budget package and for funding the promotion of a publicity blitz by the Minister of Finance and his cabinet colleagues.

Could the Minister tell us whether it would not be more appropriate to use some of these reallocated funds for much needed job creation rather than another promotional campaign like the six and five program or, more recently, like the Crow campaign?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, I will only tell my hon. friend that, if the Treasury Board has been issuing such instructions recently, it is probably too late for my budget, because my budget is now decided, and I do not think that such reallocation would be of any help at this particular time. Therefore, I suspect that my hon. friend is referring to another speculative story, which probably does not have foundation.

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## RAILWAYS

## CROWSNEST PASS RATE—EXPENDITURE ON ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

**Mr. Laverne Lewycky (Dauphin):** Madam Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Minister of Finance and arises out of the Government's four-page supplement with regard to the Pepin proposal which appeared in the *Winnipeg Free Press* and the *Brandon Sun* on the weekend and, today, in the *Winnipeg Sun*.

● (1430)

Does the Minister consider it appropriate for Ministers such as the Minister of Transport to waste money on advertisements which, like Dracula, suck money from the western farmers? Will he be issuing some sort of guidelines to prevent the

Government's waste of taxpayers' dollars when there is not even legislation before the House? If the Pepin proposals are so beneficial to western farmers, surely they can stand on their own merits?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, the Minister of Transport answered this question quite appropriately and adequately last Friday. I totally support what the Minister of Transport has said. I think it is an excellent initiative and should be applauded.

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## THE CHARTER OF RIGHTS

## REQUEST FOR TEXT OF PROPOSED PROPERTY RIGHTS AMENDMENT

**Hon. Erik Nielsen (Leader of the Opposition):** Madam Speaker, my question for the Prime Minister follows the exchange between himself and the Hon. Member for St. John's East with respect to property rights in the Charter of Rights. He will know that, historically, this Party moved a property rights amendment in the committee, which was defeated by the combined forces of the Liberal Party and the New Democratic Party at that time. He will know that that same amendment was moved by this Party in the House of Commons during the debate on the measure, and again defeated by the Government. We still have that draft ready.

Will the Prime Minister consider providing us with a copy of his proposed draft by tomorrow, so that we might consider it in our usual regular caucus on Wednesday?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member goes a little back into history. This is recent history. If he has forgotten, I will report to him that in the summer of the constitutional meetings with the Provinces we had a Section in the Charter of Rights entrenching the rights of property.

**Mr. Epp:** You never moved it.

**Mr. Trudeau:** It was removed at the request of the Provinces. I am prepared to reintroduce that. I am certainly prepared to make sure that the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has a copy of our draft. It is ready and it can be moved at any time.

I would have wished that the Leader of the Opposition had been a little less conditional when he says if we do that he will examine it and discuss it through the usual channels. Why does he not say now that, if we can get a draft on which we both agree, he will answer my challenge to get it done and to ask for a House order of one day?

**Mr. Nielsen:** That is a new version of the twist. I think if the Prime Minister examines the report of my question, he will see that I never used the word "if". All I did was draw his attention to the fact that we twice introduced a property rights