

demonstrated by the many agreements we have signed in this area since our fortunate coming to power.

Mr. Speaker, this Conservative Government prefers consensus and compromise to unilateral and sterile decisions for which the Liberal Government of the time was famous. I am convinced that with the open-mindedness of our Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, and the support of the provinces, we will elaborate fair remedies to counteract the effects of the decrease and instability in oil prices.

If I may, Mr. Speaker, I will conclude by emphasizing the excellent performance of our Minister during the *Question Period* program broadcasted yesterday on the CTV network.

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[English]

### LABOUR CONDITIONS

#### EFFECT OF CUTS IN GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES

**Mr. George Henderson (Egmont):** Mr. Speaker, in the election campaign, 1984, the Conservatives were promising jobs, jobs, jobs, but all we got after the election was a loss of jobs, and broken promises. In my own riding, the Energy, Mines and Resources office has moved to Charlottetown with a loss of 12 jobs. We have seen job losses in Prince Edward Island in the Department of Fisheries. Our customs offices have had cuts in staff. Our wharves are falling down because of lack of funding for small craft harbours.

The long awaited construction of the new combined Mess for Canadian Forces Base Summerside had been delayed several times and has now been placed on the back burner. Our postal service has been cut. Our railways are being abandoned. Our construction industry is suffering as a result of these cuts and broken promises. The only thing the Government is promising the people of Atlantic Canada now is user fees and higher taxes. What a difference two years makes.

Atlantic Canadians will remember this Government when the next election rolls around. They will remember the Tory Members they elected in 1984 to represent their interests in Ottawa who transferred into little sheep. The people will have the last "baa" and will turf out these little sheep.

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### FISHERIES

#### OVERFISHING BY FRENCH VESSELS—SUPPORT FOR GOVERNMENT ACTION

**Mr. Gerald Comeau (South West Nova):** Mr. Speaker, in 1972 the Liberal Government signed a treaty which gave permanent rights to French nationals to fish in southern Newfoundland waters. In 1984 the Liberals agreed, in writing, to French overfishing in the same waters.

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A number of proposals have been suggested to solve this mess. The Liberal Leader in Newfoundland has suggested that we annex St. Pierre and Miquelon. The NDP leader in Newfoundland, when asked for his suggestion, said: "I don't know, maybe its time to bark at the French". The NDP Leader in Ottawa said we should take military action.

Our Government has suggested the only reasonable course of action to date, not a declaration of war, but to resolve the dispute by arbitration, something the Liberals were not capable of doing.

French quotas in Canadian waters are half what they were last year. What we must do now is come to terms with the French overfishing in disputed waters. We welcome any and all suggestions, short of a declaration of war.

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● (1410)

### CANADA POST CORPORATION

#### DENIAL OF SECOND-CLASS MAILING PRIVILEGES TO RELIGIOUS PUBLICATIONS

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill):** Mr. Speaker, when I was at church yesterday morning, and on a number of other occasions over the weekend, a great many people expressed to me their dismay at the fact that under this Government, magazines like *Penthouse* and *Playboy* continue to receive higher subsidies than religious magazines like *The United Church Observer*, *The Canadian Lutheran* and the *Presbyterian Record*. Now that this has come to the attention of the public, Conservative back-benchers and the Government, I would hope that we would see some action on this front very soon.

This is not the kind of thing that will have to be before the House for weeks on end before some action can be taken. It is the kind of problem that could be solved through quick action on the part of the Government. I am absolutely positive that there must be a great many back-benchers who find this every bit as appalling as we do on this side of the House and I would hope that very soon this discrimination against religious magazines and in favour of soft-porn magazines will be eradicated.

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### ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

#### POSSIBLE REDUCTION BY ONTARIO HYDRO USING LOW-SULPHUR WESTERN COAL

**Mr. Alan Redway (York East):** Mr. Speaker, is Ontario Premier David Peterson really serious about eliminating acid rain? If so, why has he again postponed his discussions with the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Mazankowski) on the subject