

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

CONTENT OF ALLEGED GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry-Prescott-Russell): Mr. Speaker, the Conservatives are in trouble. In typical fashion the Tories, whose popularity is waning, have taken a page from the Richard Nixon survival book and are attempting to intimidate and even discredit opposition Members of Parliament who disagree, or may disagree, with the Prime Minister's (Mr. Mulroney) view on free trade. Not only does the document in question attack opposition Members, but it makes a complete mockery of any of the consultation process which the Government says it practises.

The document is contemptuous of the very people that the Government purports to represent. The first sign of Tories in trouble, Mr. Speaker, is when they attempt to axe the Opposition. I cannot wait for their next difficulty; then we will see the Tories bury the hatchet in each other, the way they usually do. By the way, I suggest the Conservatives hire communications people who can spell.

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NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS

NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY CONFERENCE STATEMENT—
CANADIAN CONTRIBUTION

Mr. Reg Stackhouse (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, I believe this House should be fully conscious of the notable contribution that Canada has made to stabilizing the world through the success of the Non-Proliferation Treaty Conference. Five years ago it was not possible for that conference to issue a common statement.

Through the consensus achieved under the influence of Canadian diplomacy allied with other like-minded states, such a statement was published last week. It is the first common word to come out of this conference supporting a treaty with 129 signatory nations. Much of the credit goes to Ambassador Roche, the team of dedicated professional diplomats who worked with him, and the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) who gave his support. Believe me, Mr. Speaker, as a person attached to the delegation who spent a week attending the conference, I was very proud to see the way in which the noble traditions of Canadian diplomacy are being carried on and making a significant contribution to world peace.

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FINANCE

INVESTMENT OF PENSION FUNDS IN FOREIGN MARKETS

Mr. Neil Young (Beaches): Mr. Speaker, in his Budget of last May the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) proposed that the rules for investing pension funds in foreign markets be dramatically changed. At the present time only 10 per cent of

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a pension fund's holding can be invested outside Canada. The Minister of Finance has proposed that this be increased to about 30 per cent, which represents an outflow of some \$30 billion in Canadian funds for investment abroad.

The Minister has stated that this is intended to create jobs in Canada by enticing pension funds to invest money in Canadian small business. The logic of this argument escapes me, and it raises a number of additional concerns with respect to the security of those pension funds once they leave Canada.

The Minister has not indicated how those funds will be insured in the case of bad investments. Neither has he indicated how those investments will be supervised and regulated.

There is growing concern among Canadians that the Government is allowing the boys on Bay Street to play fast and loose with Canadians' hard-earned money. The Minister should go back to the drawing board before he proceeds with this budget measure, which has clearly not been well thought out. If \$30 billion leaves the country for foreign investment, Mr. Speaker, while the Canadian economy requires that money for development here to provide Canadian jobs, the Minister of Finance should be ashamed of himself for his proposal.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

FISHERIES

SALE OF CANNED TUNA—MINISTER'S RESIGNATION

Mr. George Henderson (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, it has just been brought to my attention that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans has submitted his resignation to the Prime Minister. While we may all agree that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans did the honourable thing by resigning from Cabinet—

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Henderson: —I have a question for the Prime Minister. Is he now admitting that there was political interference in this issue? If so, why did he adamantly deny it all last week?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I think that the honourable conduct of the former Minister of Fisheries is appropriate and adequate explanation. There has been an exchange of correspondence between the former Minister and myself, which has been distributed to Hon. Members. I hope it will be received shortly by my hon. friend and I hope that provides the necessary explanation.

PRIME MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. George Henderson (Egmont): All last week, Mr. Prime Minister, we heard contradictory statements from you, Sir, and your Minister of Fisheries—