

is President Mitterrand, of the same Party as the New Democrats, and I would hope that the NDP would be able to get President Mitterrand to answer its question.

• (1430)

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

**Mr. Broadbent:** Madam Speaker, I see the Prime Minister has returned to his usual lofty level of debate. I say to him that we have been on record on the SS-20 for a long, long time, well before he opened his mouth on the issue, I might add. Just for once would the Prime Minister show a smidgen of respect for the truth, just a wee bit? I willingly say to the Prime Minister that we disagree with the President of France on his policy in terms of—

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Broadbent:** —the inclusion of nuclear weapons, and we would like—

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

#### GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Madam Speaker, will the Prime Minister for once show some initiative on his part, instead of just responding to what France is doing or what President Reagan is or is not doing? Will he stand front and centre and tell the people of Canada what his proposals are for bringing about nuclear disarmament?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, I have done that repeatedly. I did that at the two special sessions of the United Nations on disarmament. I did that in a speech at Notre Dame University. I did that just a couple of weeks ago in a toast on the occasion of the visit of Vice-President Bush. I have stated the position many times of this Government. I wish the Hon. Member would look at that and, rather than talk about his long record of participation, take it up with his own friends.

Once again, he asks me to take initiatives rather than to put pressure on others, and in the same breath and same Question Period, he asks me to put pressure on President Reagan. That is fair. I did that when I made a public speech a couple of weeks ago to Mr. Bush. I did that in private meetings with Vice-President Bush. I have not heard of the Hon. Member meeting with his socialist friends of France and making any great hullabaloo about the French force de frappe. Why does he not start there?

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#### CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

##### REMUNERATION OF PRESIDENT AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES

**Mr. Pat Nowlan (Annapolis Valley-Hants):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. It

comes right back to earth, and we do not have to cruise around at all. The Minister could not give me any information on Friday, Madam Speaker, when I asked about the Chairman of Air Canada and RCMP investigations into activities of Air Canada and/or the Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister of Transport very directly today, Madam Speaker, about the Canadian National and the reports out of Washington that Canadian National high officials received a 20 per cent increase in pay this past year, and that the salary of the President, Mr. Le Clair, is \$213,000, up from \$151,000 a year ago?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport):** Madam Speaker, the truth of the matter is that the salaries for high officers at CN have been frozen since January, 1981. What has happened is that, following the departure of Mr. Bandeen and others, there have been promotions, normal ones, at the top. Mr. Le Clair, who was a Vice-President, has become President. That is the explanation for his increase.

##### JUSTIFICATION FOR SIZE OF REMUNERATION

**Mr. Pat Nowlan (Annapolis Valley-Hants):** Madam Speaker, perhaps I will leave the President alone. He will appear before the Transport Committee, I believe, this week, perhaps with the Chairman also. The fact of the matter is, however, there is a report filed with the Securities Exchange Commission in the United States giving public information to the Americans on Canadian officials, which Canadians cannot get in Canada, showing that the remuneration for top officials in CN is now at an average of \$92,000, up some 20 per cent since last year.

What is the justification for a 20 per cent increase for the top officials of CN, a Crown Corporation under the direction of the Minister, when the employees in the yard and along the tracks, be it fast track or greasy track, have settled contracts of six and five per cent under the law of the land? Does the Minister not think this represents moral deceit and decay of a Government which has to be corrected forthwith?

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

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport):** Madam Speaker, I can only repeat what I have said, which is that the salaries at CN have been frozen since January, 1981. The salaries which are referred to which have been increased have to do with 1982 over 1981, which is not the period of the six and five application. The explanation I have given, I thought was a very good one, that when you have the President, his salary is consequently adjusted because of the promotion he receives. If you have a good number of people leaving at one time in the organization, you have, of course, a more general effect. The salaries of officers at CN have to be compared with