

Petitions

the jurisdiction of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce to approve or not approve the application for the loan by CYI. Is the Government going to approve that loan and allow that project to go ahead which involves a total investment of over \$600 million by the private sector in this country?

Hon. Ed Lumley (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I doubt very much that the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development made the statement alleged by the Hon. Member.

Mr. Nielsen: He did.

Mr. Lumley: But I will have discussion with him as a result of the representation made by the Hon. Member.

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MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that a message has been received from the Senate requesting that this House unite with the Senate in the appointment of a special joint committee to consider ways by which the Senate of Canada could be reformed, and also to select members of this House to act on the proposed special joint committee.

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PETITIONS

MR. OGLE—TESTING OF U.S. NUCLEAR DEVICES

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the petition presented by the Hon. Member for Saskatoon East (Mr. Ogle) on Thursday, December 8, 1983, meets the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITIONS

MR. PARENT—NUCLEAR ARMS PRODUCTION

Mr. Gilbert Parent (Welland): Mr. Speaker, to the honourable the House of Commons in Parliament assembled, the petition of the undersigned residents of the constituency of Welland, who now avail themselves of their ancient and undoubted right thus to present a grievance common to your petitioners in the certain assurance that your honourable House will therefore provide a remedy, humbly sheweth that the undersigned citizens strongly support the freezing of nuclear arms production and want Members of Parliament to take a firm stand to ensure that other countries do not

endanger our country with threatening weapons and abuse our rights as world citizens. And as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

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[Translation]

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The House resumed, from Thursday, December 8, consideration of the motion of Mr. Jack Burghardt for an Address to his Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the Session.

Mr. Brian Mulroney (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, first of all, I think I ought to congratulate the Member for Lévis (Mr. Gourde), if I am not mistaken, and the Member for London West (Mr. Burghardt) on their participation in the debate on the Throne Speech yesterday. I listened carefully to all their comments, although I must say I do not share all their views. However, I was impressed by the content of their remarks and I shall be anxious to hear them again in the House.

[English]

You will forgive me, I am sure, Mr. Speaker, if I take advantage of this opportunity, which I suppose is the first I have had apart from a gentle reference to the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) on September 12, to thank the good people of Central Nova for having sent me to this House with such an overwhelming majority.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mulroney: I thank them again for their kindness and support, and I can assure you and them that the simple promise I made will be honoured, namely that we in this Party will get rid of this Government just as soon as possible.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mulroney: It is not much, Mr. Speaker, but it is the least we can do.

As a new boy here I have not had much experience with Throne Speeches, and so to understand and appreciate the validity and value of the promises made in this regard this time, I thought I would go back and take a look at the last one.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Mulroney: Because then I could make an objective and reasonable judgment as to what Canadians can count on with regard to this one. It makes some interesting reading. One of the promises, one of the essential objectives of this Government in the 1980 Speech from the Throne, was to put more people to work. When that promise was made there were 884,000 Canadians unemployed. Now there are 1,346,000 without jobs, an increase of almost 50 per cent. Youth unem-