

Oral Questions

these as a suggestion that will be considered as part of the budget which I hope to introduce in the House in early 1983. I invite him to work hard at it again, because the analysis I have made seems to indicate that the figures he mentioned as being produced by that tax are barely half the amount he is talking about. I hope his research assistants and my officials can sit down and work out any discrepancies which there might be in his proposals, but generally I look forward to proposals from all sides of the House, having in mind the preparation of the next budget. I can assure him that I will not discard his proposals even if they come from a Member of the Socialist Party.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Broadbent: Madam Speaker, the only difference between this Minister and his predecessor when it comes to evasion is that at least this Minister smiles.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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THE ECONOMY**REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT INTRODUCE LONG TERM ECONOMIC STRATEGY**

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Madam Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Prime Minister. In his address to the nation last week, the Prime Minister talked about trust and attitude, which everyone on this side of the House, and indeed the vast majority of Canadians, think are important at this time. Since the same Prime Minister about two years ago promised the people of Canada that his Government would produce for our nation what has been taken for granted by industrial nations in Europe for a long time, and by Japan for a long time, namely, an industrial strategy, and has not in those two years produced it, will the Prime Minister again implement his own call for trust by telling Canadians now that, by Christmas at the latest, the Government of Canada will produce an economic strategy for the long term for the nation?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member talks about an industrial strategy and an economic strategy. I believe his question related to an economic strategy. Yes, I can assure him that my statements on television last week were meant to set the background and hopefully the mood for precisely that. Already today the Minister of Finance has decided to take the initiative and begin to lay the groundwork and give precision to the elements of such an economic strategy.

REQUEST THAT MANUFACTURING STRATEGY BE PLACED BEFORE PARLIAMENT

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Madam Speaker, I will return to the term which the Prime Minister used in the past, as indeed we have, namely, an industrial strategy. More

specifically, he talked in the City of Windsor about a manufacturing strategy for the country as a whole. Will the Prime Minister give his unequivocal assurance that by Christmas the Government of Canada will have before Parliament a manufacturing strategy for the nation which, for the first time, will have a time frame that is longer than the next election?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, I want to indicate to the Hon. Leader of the New Democratic Party that an industrial strategy, in the sense that he is asking for, is something that cannot be given in one statement. I think there has been a misunderstanding which has been entertained for a long time on the thought that there can be one industrial strategy for Canada.

There is division of jurisdiction between the Federal and Provincial Governments. There are many industries in Canada—some in manufacturing, as the Hon. Member said, and some having to do with natural resources and with services. Therefore, I do not envisage that there ever could be one industrial strategy for Canada. There can be many and, indeed, the Government has been employed since the 1980 election in announcing many elements of that industrial strategy. The Minister of Transport, just to take one example, has already by his initiatives in the area of the Crow taken a very important step in the area of industrial strategy, in the area of transportation, and so it goes for all the other areas.

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[*Translation*]

HOUSE OF COMMONS**PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF HON. ROBERT TIÉBLÉ N'DAW,
MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINES, OF MALI**

Madam Speaker: I have the honour of drawing the attention of the House to the distinguished presence in our gallery of His Excellency Mr. Robert Tiéblé N'Daw, Minister of Energy and Mines, of Mali.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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[*English*]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**LEVEL OF BENEFITS—GOVERNMENT POSITION**

Hon. David Crombie (Rosedale): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Employment and Immigration. It concerns a story which was published at noon today on CP Wire. The short paragraph which I wish to bring to the attention of the Minister and ask him to comment upon concerns unemployment insurance benefits. It reads:

Officials have said the Government cannot afford to carry that deficit indefinitely. Axworthy is said to be looking at various ways to cover it, including cuts in benefits—