

It is not in the interests of any member of the public that the list of depositors of any financial institution go public in this way.

● (1150)

REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT TO BANK ACT

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops-Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, this is a very extraordinary situation in which we are asking the taxpayers of Canada to come forward with in excess of \$1 billion in cash to bail out a list of uninsured depositors. Recognizing the point that the Minister of State has just made, will the Prime Minister bring in legislation in order to deal with this very unique and extraordinary situation?

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, the answer is no.

Mr. Riis: Why?

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Because we don't believe in retroactive law, that's why.

Mr. Riis: Who are you trying to cover up for?

Mr. Young: More brothers-in-law.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Hon. Member for Swift Current-Maple Creek.

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AGRICULTURE

GOVERNMENT'S STABILIZATION POLICY

Mr. Geoff Wilson (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for the Canadian Wheat Board and is with regard to agricultural commodities stabilization. A number of us have been following the long path toward that national plan and we were concerned to see an article in *The Globe and Mail* yesterday under the headline "Farm Income Plan a Step Closer". Can the Minister confirm the validity of that article?

Hon. Charles Mayer (Minister of State (Canadian Wheat Board)): Mr. Speaker, the general intent of the article is correct, but the body of it is totally incorrect in that the Minister of Agriculture has not made any agreement public. It is unfortunate that the article is so false, having appeared in a national newspaper.

I can confirm that the Minister has sent the provinces a proposed draft agreement which incorporates accommodations of all the provinces which presently have red meat stabilization plans without, I believe, violating the general principles behind stabilization. I can also confirm that the Minister was able to do this within the first year of our Government taking office. That fulfils a campaign commitment, something that the

Oral Questions

previous Government could not do for the previous ten years. For that the Minister deserves our congratulations and thanks.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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[Translation]

SOCIAL SECURITY

FAMILY ALLOWANCES—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal-Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Right Hon. Prime Minister.

Yesterday, the Minister of National Health and Welfare tabled a closure motion to prevent the Opposition and the public from telling the truth about the Bill to deindex family allowances.

Can the Prime Minister explain to the Canadian people why he is in such a hurry to take away money from the Canadian families and why he is so slow to impose a minimum tax on wealthy Canadians who now pay no taxes? Can the Prime Minister reply to this question?

[English]

Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the Hon. Member has asked this question. Yesterday the Member for Davenport got up and said: "I have nothing new to say", and then proceeded to say again what had already been said. That is the kind of debate that has been ongoing.

More important, articles in *The Toronto Star* and *The Montreal Gazette* today indicate that our approach is correct. We are taking money from those who can afford it and giving it to those who need it more. I suggest that the Hon. Member should get his head out of the sand and look at the amount of money that people earning lower incomes will get under this program. He should work to improve this program rather than to maintain a status quo which has been seen to be ineffective.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

REQUEST THAT PRIME MINISTER MEET MOTHERS OF QUEBEC FAMILIES

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal-Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of social injustice in Canada has just told us a good one.

My supplementary is for the Prime Minister and concerns his answer to the effect that he does not want to meet Quebec families. Next Wednesday, there will be a meeting of Quebec mothers in Montreal. Will the Prime Minister have the courage to meet them as they want to express their views on deindexation, which will mean a loss for them of \$55 million?