

S.O. 21
FINANCE

ALLOCATION OF JOB-CREATION FUNDS IN
HAMILTON-WENTWORTH

Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, my riding of Hamilton-Wentworth and I, as its Progressive Conservative Member of Parliament, have been fingered on a Liberal list of Tory constituencies which have received federal Government job-creation moneys.

The Liberal strategy to counteract bad publicity about pork-barrelling goes further. Liberals are now attacking anyone on this side who complains about government grants to our ridings, as being against job creation. This attempt to smear Conservative MPs in order to put the lid on the pork-barrel is not only despicable; it is a sign of how corrupt this Liberal administration has become. It is tragicomical when it comes to the case of the expansion of the Hamilton Civic Airport.

Fact—the \$45 million to \$50 million airport expansion listed for my riding has been a federal government priority for more than a decade.

Fact—the construction start-up, expropriation of lands in the runway path, indeed the whole operation, was approved by all levels of government, and began at least two years ago.

Fact—the strongest proponents of this expansion have included the entire Hamilton City Council, and most of its members live in the three Liberal-held ridings—Hamilton East, Hamilton West, and Lincoln.

I find it almost impossible to believe that a desperate Liberal Government would reach back over the years to associate me with its current pork-barrelling operation. If the \$45 million was such a generous grant to a Tory riding, how come I never heard about it until after the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Munro) took all the credit?

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THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

Mr. John Evans (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, Canadians have heard an awful lot since June of last year about the “changing Face” of the Conservative Party. To my mind, one would be hard pressed to find a more apt description.

We awoke this morning to be confronted, or should I say affronted, with yet another example of two-faced Tory duplicity. It strikes me as somewhat perverse that the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Mulroney) can say in apparent clear conscience so many different things in such a short period of time. How are Canadians to trust a man who on May 9, 1983, said that public servants “never did a day’s work in their lives” and, on February 9, 1984, that the Ottawa bureaucracy is “among the finest” in the world?

● (1125)

He himself must get dizzy when he promises on the one hand “to cut everywhere and under every circumstance”, and on the other to ensure a “well-paid and well-looked after” public service. If the Leader of the Opposition were promoting a detergent or a breakfast cereal rather than a political philosophy, he would surely be charged with false advertising.

The Leader of the Opposition’s self-serving comments at a gathering of Tories in the riding of Ottawa-Carleton last night provide further proof that he is simply the head reptile amongst a party of political chameleons.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member’s language is hardly parliamentary. The Chair has to say that the language in the last sentence is not parliamentary, and would ask the Hon. Member to withdraw.

Some Hon. Members: Withdraw.

Mr. Speaker: Referring to someone as a “head reptile” is hardly parliamentary.

Some Hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. Speaker: Will the Hon. Member withdraw that word?

Mr. Evans: What word, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker: The word “reptile”, referring to an Hon. Member.

Mr. Evans: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will withdraw the word “reptile”.

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OLYMPIC GAMES

TRIBUTE TO CANADIAN HOCKEY TEAM

Mr. Gerry St. Germain (Mission-Port Moody): Mr. Speaker, all Canadians can take a great deal of pride in the performance of our Olympic hockey team. Despite much talk of the demise of our national game, the Canadian spirit of dedication, hard work and patriotism, that typifies so many young Canadians, is still there.

Certainly two games are a long way from winning a gold medal, and certainly there are some huge tests ahead, but let us enjoy their performance and wish them well. This was the team that was written off by so many in the world. Let us all learn from their initiative and dedication. They are a group of Canadians from all across Canada, of both official languages, working together and achieving success. Surely the effort and the sacrifice they make should inspire all Canadians, and most of all the Hon. Members of this House, to work together to represent all of Canada better.

I have seen the dedication and sacrifice that take place in the likes of Craig Redmond, a member of the team, whom I