

permanent damage to what was once the proud breadbasket of this land. This is a devastating budget for western Canadians and a shameful day for a Liberal government that promised more.

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#### NATIONAL FORUM ON HEALTH

**Mr. Pat O'Brien (London—Middlesex, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, with Canada's health care system at a crossroads, the Prime Minister has wisely established the National Forum on Health to develop a vision for Canada's health system into the 21st century. This vision must be capable of achieving a balance between care and health promotion, prevention and protection measures.

From various backgrounds and regions of the country, members of the health forum are seeking to identify national priorities and encouraging dialogue among Canadians on medium and long term health issues. Over the coming months they will focus discussion and assist in developing strategies to improve the health of Canadians.

I am proud that a member of the London community was appointed to the health forum. Ms. Shanti Radcliffe brings to the forum her experience in community based health for youth, women, seniors and immigrants. I commend Ms. Radcliffe and all members of the health forum as they help to ensure Canada has the best health care system in the world.

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#### THE BUDGET

**Mrs. Brenda Chamberlain (Guelph—Wellington, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, Guelph—Wellington residents wanted responsible deficit reduction and spending cuts and the Minister of Finance has responded.

They know it is easy to cry for cuts but more difficult to ensure that any deficit reduction is fair and equitable. The budget ensures fairness. They know it is easy to criticize, but more difficult to make the good and necessary decisions which the government has made. They know that it is easy to release figures and offer ideas based on principle rather than reality. Yesterday's budget recognizes that deficit reduction will affect the lives of real people.

The people of Guelph—Wellington are not looking for the easy solutions found in 1-900 numbers and cable programs. They believe in this country and our ability to overcome our problems. They want Canada to succeed. They wanted a tough budget. They wanted spending reductions. They wanted fairness. For their sake, we have delivered.

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[Translation]

#### REFERENDUM DEBATE

**Mr. Nick Discepola (Vaudreuil, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, a sovereign Quebec would be a country of intolerance, where democra-

cy would be trampled on and ideological dissidence could be equated with treason, depending on the outcome.

● (1405)

When someone like Bourgault brands as racist the anglo-phones who would democratically vote against their proposal, that is one thing. When someone like Landry says that there is no place for multiculturalism in Quebec society, that is another, but when a democratically elected member of the House maintains that newly arrived Quebecers should not have the right to express their views or vote on such a vital question as the future of their country, that is unacceptable.

On behalf of all English-speaking and newly arrived Quebecers who have chosen to settle, to live and to raise their children in Canada and in Quebec, I demand an apology from the hon. member for Louis-Hébert.

I want to remind the Bourgaults and the Parés of this world that they also come from—

**The Speaker:** Dear colleagues, when making such statements or expressing such views, we must refrain from attacking individual members of this House. I would ask each of you not to use the names of the members of Parliament, just the names of their riding.

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#### OLD AGE SECURITY

**Mrs. Madeleine Dalphond-Guiral (Laval-Centre, BQ):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Chrétien government announced in its budget that it intends to cut pensions—

**The Speaker:** Dear colleague, please do not use the name of the hon. member.

**Mrs. Dalphond-Guiral:** Yesterday, the Liberal government announced in its budget that it intends to cut old age pensions as early as 1997. The budget tabled yesterday is proof positive that the biggest threat to old age pensions and social programs comes from the federal government, not the Quebec government.

Judging by the government's actions, this direct attack on the elderly, the unemployed and welfare recipients is only just beginning. The chairman of the no side, Michel Bélanger, who has been trying to scare people by saying that the nasty separatists want to cut old age pensions, must truly be disheartened.

We are anxious to hear his perceptive analysis of the federal budget.

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[English]

#### INDIAN AFFAIRS

**Mr. John Duncan (North Island—Powell River, Ref.):** Mr. Speaker, the Auditor General recently stated some program spending of the department of Indian affairs fails to meet strategy objectives, exhibits management inadequacies, lacks appropriate performance and evaluation information and thus impedes accountability.