

Oral Questions

Obviously that Tory Minister clearly misled the House in regard to deals worth over \$4 million. If we are to apply the logic of the Right Hon. Member for Yellowhead, he should have demanded the resignation of his Minister for misleading the House. Did he? Of course not. Why? Because it was unintentional. Did Liberal Members demand the Minister's resignation? No, because we know the basic and fundamental difference between an honest mistake and a deception.

I would suggest that Members opposite should stop this hypocrisy, stop applying double standards, and show some consistent application of parliamentary principles for a change.

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NATIONAL FILM BOARD

UNITED STATES RULING ON CANADIAN DOCUMENTARY FILMS

Mr. Walter McLean (Waterloo): Madam Speaker, Canadians are proud of the independence and international reputation of the National Film Board. Its documentaries have won acclaim in film festivals around the world.

The decision of the United States Justice Department to declare three recent documentaries offensive and brand them as political propaganda, is unacceptable. Those in the United States who show National Film Board films "Acid From Heaven", "Acid Rain: Requiem or Recovery", and "If You Love This Planet", must record their names with the Justice Department as if they were taking part in a subversive activity. Incidentally, the latter film which warns of dangers in the nuclear arms build-up, has been nominated for an Oscar.

It is not enough for officials to make statements across the border about this unfortunate incident. It is imperative that the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacEachen) and the Minister of Communications (Mr. Fox) make a clear statement to the American administration that the treatment of these films is unacceptable to the people of Canada and the Government of Canada.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

AMAX CORPORATION'S DUMPING OF TOXIC WASTE—MEETING WITH MINISTERS

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Madam Speaker, Canadians from coast to coast have been following the Gillespie-Lalonde affair with jaundiced eyes. There are too many deals, patronage, and appearances of pay-offs by Liberals to their friends.

For three years now, on behalf of all Canadians I have attempted to reveal the truth about the Amax affair. These same frontbench Liberals have fought every move, have sought to hide material from the public view. Documents delivered in an unmarked envelope this week add one more chapter to the book on why Liberals are unfit to govern.

The documents reveal that two Liberal Cabinet Ministers met together with Amax officials and their respective lawyers before the Government's own environmental review was complete. The results of the meeting are now clear—Amax's own lawyers participated in the drafting of marine disposal regulations, which were ultimately signed by the then Minister of Fisheries, the present Minister of Public Works (Mr. LeBlanc), in the middle of the 1979 federal election. The two Cabinet Ministers, Len Marchand and Iona Campagnola, can take credit for circumventing the Government's own review process, for saving Amax \$23 million, for allowing dumping 8,000 times above the Government's own regulations, and for lowering the level of trust the average Canadian can put in the political and legislative process in Canada.

● (1115)

Can we forget, Madam Speaker, that four out of five on the Government's scientific review panel opposed the marine dumping proposal by Amax? The Gillespie affair is shameful. The Amax affair is political corruption at its apex.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE ADMINISTRATION

CAPE BRETON COAL AGREEMENT—SIGNING OF CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT IN OCTOBER, 1980

Mr. John Bosley (Don Valley West): Madam Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance with regard to what would seem to be a leak of the October 28, 1980, budget. The Minister will know that the documents tabled in this House this week indicate a million dollars was set aside in the planning stages of that budget for the Scotia Coal Synfuels Project. The Minister will also know that, one day after the budget was announced in this House, the consortium agreement was signed, that agreement obviously having been negotiated and prepared weeks in advance, indicating that the consortium was aware and intended to apply for that \$1 million. How was it that the Scotia Coal Synfuels Project consortium knew that money was in the budget?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, the infusion of the funds for research on coal liquefaction was and is part of the National Energy Program which was tabled in the House at the same time as the budget on October 28. Second, I am advised the agreement between the consortium was actually signed at a later date than the one mentioned by the Hon. Member.

Mr. Broadbent: A day after the budget.

Mr. Lalonde: Third, I am advised that the project is one that was considered for a long time by the Nova Scotia Government under the 1977 agreement. It had nothing to do with the budget.