

cally a possible relationship between dietary vitamin D and vascular disease. Worldwide, data are few. In a small population sample in Norway, it was observed that men and women with heart disease had consumed somewhat larger amounts of vitamin D than those who did not have the disease. However, there were other differences between the two groups. Infants and children require vitamin D for normal bone growth and past experience indicates that there is insufficient naturally occurring vitamin D in the Canadian food supply to protect Canadian children against the vitamin D deficiency disease, rickets. An appropriate quantity of vitamin D is, therefore, added to all milks, infant formulas and margarine in Canada, but essentially to no other foods. Vitamin D levels of fortified foods are continually checked by the department to ensure they are neither too high nor too low. It should be noted that this department has one of the best vitamin D-monitoring programs in the world. In view of the need for vitamin D in the diet, the current levels in the Canadian food supply are not considered harmful to health.

[English]

Madam Speaker: The questions enumerated by the parliamentary secretary have been answered. Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

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MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Madam Speaker: Shall all notices of motions stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

THE BUDGET

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The House resumed from Tuesday, October 28, 1980, consideration of the motion of Mr. MacEachen that this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

Hon. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West): Madam Speaker, in starting the main part of my remarks today—and I may have to go on for a day or two to cover the inadequacies of this budget—I want to remind the House of a statement that was made by the present Minister of Justice (Mr. Chrétien) last year. On October 12, 1979, the Minister of Justice who at that time was the Minister of Finance said:

There is only one thing that matters: to be honest with the public. That is all I ask the government.

The Budget—Mr. Crosbie

Certainly one would not think a Liberal had said that, but it was said by the Minister of Justice when he was in the opposition. He asked only one thing of the government—that we be honest with the public. We were honest with the public and now they are over there and we are over here.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Crosbie: Nevertheless, I recommend that advice to the Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen). That is one of the things which is most deplorable about his budget document. He is not, and has not been, honest with the public. It is a tricky document and a deceiving document. It is a deceptive document and that is deplorable. I recommend that he get together with the Minister of Justice (Mr. Chrétien) and have that minister give him the little homily again about being honest with the public, and that he pay some attention to him. In starting, I would like to refer to another quotation. I am reminded of it every time I think of the election results last February. The actress Lily Tomlin said this:

The trouble with the rat race is that even if you win, you are still a rat.

● (1520)

I would ask hon. gentlemen and ladies opposite to remember that. They may have won the rat race, but try to think about what they may or may not still be.

In beginning this afternoon, I want to lay a canard flat dead on the floor, a dead duck, a dead canard, a dead goose, a plucked goose, a cooked goose, and it is this: what was the Prime Minister's commitment in connection with government expenditure growth? I have a transcript of his actual words which came from that very royal figure on January 12, 1980, when he spoke in Toronto to his "campaign college". There could not be a more lofty place for a Liberal to speak than to his own "campaign college". I have the transcript and this is what he said. He made a fivefold pledge. He said there was a five-plank Liberal theme in the election: "Liberals will do what we say we will do and if we cannot do it, we will not say it." That is what he said, he said. He said, he did it. Here is what he said at page 4. This was one of his themes. I quote exactly:

Our commitment is this. We will hold the line on government expenditure growth to under the rate of GNP.

Not to under the theme-line of GNP, not to under the stockings of GNP, not to under anything but this, to under the rate of GNP. And the minister said the GNP this year is declining one per cent. That means, if the Prime Minister's statement was to be carried out, his solemn commitment was that there would not be an increase in government expenditure growth this year beyond—I do not know what the figure would be. It would be less than the inflation rate. The inflation rate at the moment is running around 9.8 or 10 per cent averaged over the year. In actual fact there is in the minister's own papers on budgetary expenditure a 15.2 per cent increase.

The Prime Minister has broken his solemn commitment, the five themes. The Minister of Finance stated in this House two weeks ago he was going to fulfil all promises and pledges the