

*Oral Questions*

and transmitted them overseas. So, in the discussions that they were having with Hambleton in Canada, all that they were getting from him was exactly that, information.

The Hon. Member is asking why they did not seek to verify information from third parties or in other ways which would have given them a basis to go back to the Department of Justice. The answer is that they wanted to do that very much and it was always their position that, if they could find third party evidence, not this information which was obtained without a caution, but third party evidence, they would indeed have gone back to the Department of Justice to try to obtain a consent from the Attorney General of Canada to found a prosecution in Canada.

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**FOREIGN INVESTMENT REVIEW AGENCY****ELECTION CAMPAIGN PROMISE**

**Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. It is a supplement to the questions asked earlier by the Hon. Member for Oshawa. I have in my hand a copy of a campaign speech given by the Prime Minister in Toronto on February 12, 1980, wherein he made three specific promises to strengthen FIRA, one of them being as follows:

We want to expand and strengthen FIRA ... FIRA's mandate will be broadened to include the periodic review of all foreign firms of large size to assess the performance of these companies in such areas as export promotion and research and development.

If that promise had been kept, perhaps we might have prevented the Bowaters and the Iron Ores of the world.

The Prime Minister has now had three years to keep this commitment. Why has he not lived up to that promise he made in the dying days of the 1980 election campaign?

**Mr. Nielsen:** Same reason.

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, because in those dying days of the 1980 election campaign Canada was not in a world which was very short of investment funds. We did not have 12 per cent unemployment. We felt at that time that we in Canada could be a little more selective—

**Mr. Nielsen:** We did not have \$2 a gallon gas either!

**Mr. Trudeau:**—with the import into Canada of foreign capital. Since that time, there has been a very severe world-wide crisis.

**Mr. Clark:** Particularly in Canada.

**Mr. Trudeau:** The position of the Government remains that which I gave to the Hon. Member for Oshawa. We are not tightening the rules of FIRA to make it more difficult for foreign capital to have access to Canada, but we are not

making it more easy either. We are just maintaining the previous position by ensuring that there will be more efficient administration and, therefore, the capital which people want to invest in Canada and which can create jobs here, which would be done in a way which is favourable to the economy of the Canadian people—those things can get by without many months of delay which had been required under previous administrative rules. In other words, if investment is judged to be in the interests of Canada, we want it to come more quickly than more slowly.

**Mr. Murphy:** Madam Speaker, I would suggest to the Prime Minister that the only selectivity is that the Liberals select which promises they wish to keep.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Name one.

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**MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS****REQUEST FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF FUND FOR MAJOR PROJECTS**

**Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill):** My supplementary question, Madam Speaker, is directed to the Minister of Finance. About 50 per cent of the construction workers in the Province of Nova Scotia are unemployed, with approximately 30 per cent facing the possibility of joining the welfare lines this winter. In the community of Springfield, Nova Scotia, a fire pump and the town fire department have been used to provide water to the community because the half finished water system is not being completed because of lack of funds. With this in mind, would the Minister of Finance act on a recommendation of my Leader, the Hon. Member for Oshawa, and create a major municipal projects fund in order to create real jobs? I would remind the Minister of Finance that there are many millions of dollars in these projects which are ready to go now so that jobs can be created for this winter.

**Mr. Epp:** Tell us about the Manitoba deficit.

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, I have already indicated, in answer to the Hon. Member for Oshawa, that I would consider his representation. But I would also remind the Hon. Member that in my economic statement of October 27 I announced a \$500 million fund for direct job creation for which municipalities can also apply. Therefore, in the case to which he is referring, the municipality could apply through the NEED Program for an allocation of funds. The Province of Nova Scotia has been allocated several million dollars for that particular Program. It would be possible for the municipality to consider applying for a contribution under the particular Program in order to complete the work. That is available, and I am sure the Minister of Employment and Immigration will want to follow the representation made by the Hon. Member.