

*Oral Questions*

to find to protect his reputation has not been allocated. It was added within a 24 hour period.

Yesterday we were told that the Minister was increasing the deficit by \$100 million to save the integrity of his budget, through a supplementary budget speech which we were given moments before he spoke in the House. Today we find that the budget papers which we were given and which were circulated to Canadians across the country are not the same as the budget papers that were tabled in the House last night. On page 6 of his fiscal plan as tabled, there are no less than 21 changes in the documents he tabled; \$100 million here and \$100 million there. How many sets of books is the Minister keeping? Why can he not give Members of the House of Commons the same figures that he is tabling in the House?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member speaks about the supplementary budget speech. There is only one budget speech. It is the one I delivered in this House. That is elementary. The budget statement is the one which the Minister of Finance reads in the House when he delivers his budget speech. I also indicated yesterday that I was tabling on the Table of this House the official documents, and those documents have the necessary corrections, as the Hon. Member knows.

I finally stated that indeed there were thousands of copies across the country that would be made available at the time that I would be speaking and that corrections would be required, bearing in mind the changes I decided to make in the budget. That is all in the record. I delivered that in the House yesterday. The Hon. Member must have been outside the House when I made that particular statement.

● (1420)

## UNEMPLOYMENT FORECASTS

**Miss Pat Carney (Vancouver Centre):** Madam Speaker, my final supplementary question is addressed to the Minister of Finance who might then be able to explain why the additional material he distributed to us is called "Budget Speech Addendum, insert after paragraph 1, page 3".

Again in terms of fudging the figures, the Minister in his budget suggests that more Canadians will be working in the future as a result of his budget measures. The bottom line will be 55,000 fewer Canadians working at the end of 1984 than were working in 1981 when his predecessor introduced the most disastrous budget in Canadian history. Why is the Minister so blatantly manipulating the employment forecasts and thus raising hopes among unemployed Canadians that he knows he cannot fulfil?

[Translation]

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, I think the answer to the Hon. Member's question is quite simple and quite obvious. In my speech last night I said that by the end of 1984, 600,000 more Canadians would be employed than at the end of 1982, and that employment was expected to

grow at a steady pace during the months and years to come. I brought down an economic recovery budget, whose basic objective is to provide for a strong and lasting recovery of the Canadian economy. I hope the Hon. Member and her colleagues opposite will take the trouble to make a thorough analysis and to study carefully the substance of the proposals contained in this budget and that they will realize that, basically, the purpose of the budget is aimed at creating as many jobs as possible in our economy. However, it must be done in a responsible way, and that is what we are trying to do with this budget.

[English]

## LARGER WAGE SUBSIDY PROGRAM SOUGHT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

**Hon. James A. McGrath (St. John's East):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. In view of the fact that young people will be the last to be hired in an economic recovery, why did the Minister not bring in a much larger wage subsidy program for young people than the \$95 million he targeted over a period of two years? Why did he not bring in something like a refundable tax credit program, not only for the 621,000 unemployed young people but for the chronically unemployed, the hidden unemployed, and the discouraged workers, of which there are 120,000 in this country? Why can he find \$200 million to prop up what is left of his own shattered reputation when he can only find \$95 million over two years to help unemployed young people?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, the Opposition is in a situation where it is repeating itself again. I am afraid I will have to repeat the answer. The \$200 million added to the special recovery capital projects is going to take the form of expenditures across the country. My hon. friend has been complaining about Search and Rescue, for instance. Does he not admit and recognize that we could use some money for refurbishing our Search and Rescue helicopters? Does he not admit that we could spend more money on equipping our Coast Guard in a more efficient way? These are projects that we have not been able to proceed with as far as we would like because the funds were not available.

I have now made funds available that will allow projects like this to proceed faster and earlier than had been anticipated. That will mean work in the shipyards of eastern Canada and western Canada, and it will mean better protection for the fishermen and the people who work at sea about whom I am sure the Hon. Member is concerned.

That is what the availability of these funds will mean. It will mean more Canadians at work, it will mean more and better services for Canadians at work, whether they are fishing or working on offshore platforms. These are some examples of many of the things that this country needs, the capital investment this country needs, things that we have not been able to accomplish in the last while.