

effective August, 1984. It is not very often that Members on this side of the House witness a government Member who has the intelligence to practise long-term planning and leave of his own will before the voters throw him out of office.

I hate to use the analogy that the rats are abandoning ship, but it seems only—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order. The Chair has reservations about the use of a Section 21 statement of this nature.

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### THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

“THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER”

**Mr. Bill Yurko (Edmonton East):** Mr. Speaker, I heard the Governor-General read the Throne Speech, and then I read it in an attempt to digest it. I kept asking myself how one is to capulize this very extensive Throne Speech. Then the “Parable of the Sower”, or perhaps even more appropriately, the “Parable of the Sowing”, came to mind.

● (1115)

Yes, the Throne Speech is a time for sowing new ideas, new directions, new determinations, new intentions, new anticipations, and even new obsessions. Those who wrote the Throne Speech did a great deal of sowing. But then, as the parable said, some of the seeds will fall by the wayside, some will wither away, some will fall amongst thorns and will be choked by the fast growing thorns, but some will fall on good ground and multiply a hundredfold. Yes, there are some good ideas and sound directions in the Throne Speech. It has potential. Canadians are patient and will wait and see how much of it falls on good ground and multiplies a hundredfold.

### ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The Hon. Member for St. John's East.

**Mr. McGrath:** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Employment and Immigration who, I understand, is to be in the House for Question Period. In his absence, and in the absence of the Prime Minister and of the Minister of Finance, I will defer for the present.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Provencher.

**Mr. Epp:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. I understand as well that she was to be in the House. The Prime Minister is not here. While I could ask the Deputy Prime Minister, it is a specific question so I will ask it when the Minister comes into the House.

### Oral Questions

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Durham-Northumberland.

**Mr. Lawrence:** Mr. Speaker, my understanding was that the Minister of Justice was going to be in the House this morning for Question Period, and I have a question for him. I think he understands the nature and the tenor of that question. I am rather appalled to see that he is not here this morning.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Vancouver East.

**Ms. Mitchell:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to hold my question until the Prime Minister is here, if I may.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Where is everyone?

**Mr. Epp:** What a shame.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I hope Hon. Members rising will be serious. If they intend to ask questions—

**Mr. Halliday:** Where is the Government?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** If Hon. Members intend to ask a question, the Chair will recognize Hon. Members who are prepared to ask questions, and they will rise at the appropriate time when they wish to ask them.

**Some Hon. Members:** Where is the Government?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The Chair will recognize Hon. Members who are prepared to ask questions. Is the Hon. Member for Yukon prepared to ask a question?

**Mr. Nielsen:** Mr. Speaker, there are 12 Ministers here out of 36. Where is the Government that is to be held accountable in Question Period?

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

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Vancouver South.

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### FISHERIES

CRISIS SURVIVAL MEETINGS OF WEST COAST FISHERMEN—  
REQUEST FOR MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

**Hon. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South):** Mr. Speaker, I have a serious question I wish to put to the Government. I notice the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans is here, so I will direct my question to him. There are rumours on the West Coast that major announcements will be made with respect to the West Coast fishery. There are meetings of fishermen to take place tomorrow in different parts of the Province of British Columbia. They are called crisis survival meetings.

Could the Minister tell the House today whether he is prepared to make major announcements about the Pacific fishery, whether he has accepted the recommendations espe-