

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, November 21, 1990

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[*Translation*]

THE BEAUCE

Mr. Gilles Bernier (Beauce): Mr. Speaker, it seems that more and more Canadians are concerned about their future. I want to say to them that our best assurance of a prosperous future is to have confidence in ourselves and in our ability to build a better world. Optimism is the best policy, Mr. Speaker. Conversely, fear and dread attract disaster. In the Beauce region, there are many examples that bear out that all problems can be overcome with hope and self-confidence.

Although the Beauce region is far removed from our large urban centres and major highways, from airports and sea ports, its residents have astounded more than one pessimist by making the Beauce one of the most dynamic regions in this country, all because we believe in our potential and our ability to do better.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Canadians would ignore these prophets of gloom and doom. With a positive outlook on the future we can create a healthy, dynamic environment.

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[*English*]

GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO

Mr. Derek Lee (Scarborough—Rouge River): Mr. Speaker, yesterday Ontarians listened with anticipation to the throne speech by the newly elected New Democratic Party government in Ontario. They waited to hear if Premier Rae would keep all those election promises that he made. The public has not forgotten those NDP

negative campaign ads filled with false information, which ended with a big x on the TV screen.

Now, Premier Rae, it is time to move to the next letter of the alphabet, the letter *i*. Why didn't you deal with your campaign promise to fund 60 per cent of elementary education costs? Why didn't you deal with your promise about the 10.5 per cent mortgage financing you were offering for home purchases? Why didn't you follow up on your promise to protect Ontario's agricultural land base from indiscriminate development? Why didn't you follow up on your rhetoric on waste management and the plan to put a garbage dump in the Rouge Valley?

Now, the last letter of the alphabet, *z*. That is the mark I give to the NDP in Ontario for a vacuous and disappointing throne speech.

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BILL C-45

Mr. Lyle Kristiansen (Kootenay West—Revelstoke): Mr. Speaker, for four and a half years this Conservative government and the Ministry of Labour have demonstrated their contempt for the health and safety of our parliamentary employees and contempt for Parliament itself.

In June 1986 Parliament passed Bill C-45, the Parliamentary Employment and Staff Relations Act, which applied the key provisions of the Canada Labour Code to Parliament Hill workers. Part I of the act was proclaimed that same year, but Part II, Labour Standards, and Part III, Occupational Health and Safety, have never been proclaimed.

Because of the government's failure to act on this expressed wish of Parliament, our workers on the Hill, unlike all other private and public sector workers in the federal domain, do not have the right to refuse work which may be dangerous to their health; do not have the right to require a government inspector to investigate the many health and safety problems in our work place; and do not have the right to have work place health and safety committees monitor their working environment.