

Oral Questions

Mr. Fulton: Tell them.

Mr. De Bané: I think the facts before us show that what has been going on on the Pacific Coast cannot continue.

Mr. Fraser: That's the mismanagement.

Mr. De Bané: Unless we stop this speculation, this race, this lottery, it will not change the competitive situation of our fishermen.

The Hon. Member should have been honest enough to say that the document points out very clearly that all the issues and options being put in that paper do not reflect the point of view of the Minister, the Department, or the Government. It is just to make sure that we have all of the issues and the options before the fishermen. I can tell the Hon. Member that they were much more intelligent than he seems to show.

Mr. Fulton: A final supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: The Right Hon. Member for Yellowhead.

Mr. Fulton: A final supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member has had a supplementary question. The Chair will attempt to deal with it in due course, as it has done, with all due respect. The Right Hon. Member for Yellowhead.

Mr. Fulton: A final supplementary.

Mr. Skelly: A final supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair has indicated to the Hon. Member that the Chair will come back to him in due course, but at this stage the Chair recognizes the Right Hon. Member for Yellowhead.

Mr. Fulton: This is Question Period. A final supplementary.

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FINANCE

SPECIAL EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVES PROGRAM

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Yellowhead): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. In referring to expenditures in Prince Edward Island he indicated that he has quoted from a list which the Minister of Finance claims he has not seen. In November in committee, Mr. Lussier, the Deputy Minister of the relevant Department, told the Member for Kingston and the Islands that there were 844 projects involved. He talked about a specific number of projects. He talked about specific expenditures. That was in November. There must have been a list in November. Where is the list today, and does the Prime Minister intend to continue to hide this list until after the election has been called?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I do not know of any list. The only knowledge of a list that I

have is that one has been asked for by the Opposition. I assume that it is being compiled.

The Right Hon. Member for Yellowhead is quite incorrect. Although only some few minutes separated my answer from his quotation of my answer, I never referred to a list when I said that my information was that more money was spent in Conservative ridings in Prince Edward Island than in Liberal ridings. I did not refer to a list. I said that I had been informed; that is all I said.

I do not know of any list. That is why I answered that if there was such a list, as the Hon. Member argues, and if he knows of a list which existed in November, why is his colleague from St. John's East asking for a list in January?

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): For the first time in this Question Period there will be a straight answer to a question. The straight answer to that question is that we are asking for that list because it has been denied to Members of Parliament. We suspect it has been denied to Members of Parliament because it shows the worst kind of Liberal patronage and playing with the lives of the unemployed.

NOTIFICATION OF PROGRAM CRITERIA—APPLICATION OF PROGRAM IN ALL CONSTITUENCIES

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Yellowhead): Mr. Speaker, permit me to come back to two other questions. First, will the Prime Minister tell the House of Commons whether criteria for this program were made known to members of the Liberal caucus before they were made known to other Members of the House of Commons? Second, will the Prime Minister of Canada give us an undertaking, a personal guarantee now, that this program has been applied equally to Canadians in all constituencies in the country who would be eligible?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the only criteria that I know of for certain are those put forward in the two Budgets of June, 1982, and April, 1983. There were programs spread over some 15 Departments, I believe. There was some \$2.4 billion set aside for work on infrastructures.

In his speech the Minister was encouraging all Members of the House to put forward infrastructure projects which might have been held up on the shelf but which we wanted to move forward on a fast track in order that jobs be created at a rapid rate. Our Members on this side seized the program and proceeded with it. I understand that Members on the other side have also done so. They have co-operated with the Minister of Finance's projects to create jobs.

● (1510)

I believe several Members on the other side are so negative as to the proposals of the Minister of Finance, they have spent so much time being destructive about them, that perhaps they have not been as diligent, I say, as Liberal members in following up on the \$2.4 billion that was put forward.