

Oral Questions

people and that the Minister's announcement today does not consist of a single new program for action, why did he promise yesterday in the House that we would have new programs?

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, one of the programs the Government has brought in is Challenge '86. This year we will have some 60,000 applications before us for jobs for young people. Yesterday the spokesman for the New Democratic Party rose in the House and completely derided Challenge '86, which will offer hope and opportunity to some 100,000 young people. He said that that program was not a benefit to young people. I assure the Leader of his Party that young people across the country will find it beneficial. It is one of a number of initiatives which we are taking.

REQUEST FOR GOVERNMENT ACTION

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Mr. Speaker, I say to the Minister and to the Prime Minister that there are still many Canadians who would like to take the word of politicians.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): They can take yours on any side of any question.

Mr. Broadbent: The Prime Minister had suggestions from the Senate and from my Party, as well as others. Why did he promise the House, as recently as yesterday and last Friday, that there would be new programs of action when he has not delivered on that? Do the words mean anything? If they do, why is there no action?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I know that for the NDP and the Liberals—

Mr. Nunziata: Answer the question, Pinocchio.

Mr. Mulroney:—throwing borrowed money at a problem is supposed to make it go away.

Mr. Broadbent: You made a promise; you said there would be new programs.

Mr. Mulroney: I indicated that there would be continued action and initiatives—

Ms. Copps: You made a promise.

Mr. Mulroney:—such as, for example, what is referred to on the front page of *The Toronto Star*: "This could be the summer of summers for job-hunting students. Not since the boom of 1981 has the metro job picture for graduating returning students looked that good", say local student counsellors."

Mr. Axworthy: That was a time when we were in government.

Mr. Mulroney: This is what is happening across the country, and we are going to cause youth unemployment to continue to go down, with government working—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Mulroney:—with the private sector.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: May I ask all Hon. Members to refrain, please, from all the interjections. It is making it very difficult for me to hear anything, I must be honest.

GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Roland de Corneille (Eglinton-Lawrence): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Right Hon. Prime Minister who repeatedly promised the people of Canada open Government, responsive Government, and a Government prepared to enter into consultation and dialogue. In view of the fact that the Government still to this moment—

Ms. Copps: He is laughing.

Mr. de Corneille:—has not announced any new youth programs, will the Prime Minister respond to the communications from his former professor, Leon Dion, from Senator Hébert, from me, and from others, all of whom continue to wait for him to open the door on this critical issue?

Ms. Copps: Stop laughing, Brian.

Some Hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Have the courage to stand up, Sheila.

Mr. Gauthier: She has much more than you, Joe.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Who is running your Party?

Mr. Crosbie: No one. We want Johnston.

● (1430)

Mr. Speaker: I am going to ask the Hon. Member for Hamilton East particularly to accept the Chair's request for no further interjections, please.

Mr. Crosbie: In other words, shut up, Sheila.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: I am going to ask particularly the Minister of Justice to do the same.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Nunziata: Withdraw.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Look who is talking about withdrawing.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!