P. FOR YOU OR IN THE COMMUNITY?

In the community, I would say.

It is for me personally. I bought real estate at Whistler years ago, in '81 before the crash, with the high prices, high interest rates so we lost our investment. Being part of that group, I haven't recovered or bought at the right time. Now at this high level of housing, with the GST coming up that will make it worse for me as a single person. I would say that housing per se or buying real estate is out of the question. We're looking at renting, it keeps going up as well.

I just finished paying off a twenty-five year mortgage. I'm just looking down the road making sure that my retirement income doesn't get eaten up too quickly by inflation.

I'm not sure who controls the campus housing market but housing just went up 20 percent.

P. WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE THE ECONOMIC ISSUES FACING VANCOUVER IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS?

There's a lot of business between Vancouver and Seattle. Vancouver is a big port so how is free trade going to affect us? I'm sure free trade is going to affect exporting and importing.

P. DO YOU THINK IT'S GOING TO BE BETTER OR...

I'm not sure. I haven't heard that much about it.

Well, on a broad scale, the problem facing all of the western hemisphere is the increasing amount of national deficits. How are countries like Canada, the US, Britain and France able to pay them off?

My biggest issue is housing. I live with another girl and we're living in a two bedroom apartment. The place is just ridiculous, it's at the point where we can't afford it.

Q. LOOKING AHEAD TO THE NEXT TWO OR THREE YEARS DO YOU THINK THAT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY WILL BE BETTER OFF FINANCIALLY, WORSE OFF OR ABOUT THE SAME?

I think we're going to be worse off because every time you go shopping you see how much groceries have gone up. For instance, I just bought a few potatoes in a 10 pound bag and you pay over six dollars and you see how much bread and milk have increased. I rent an apartment and they just gave me a $100 increase, your wages don't go up accordingly.

It really depends on your position today. Personally I think I'll be better off but I'm very concerned that my children will follow behind me. I have a 21 year old daughter paying very high rent. I think that as a country we are in a house of cards and I agree with Robert about what's happening with the huge deficit. The interest rates continue to go up to ensure that foreigners will carry our debt, that's going to put us further in debt. I really think that we're heading for a recession. People have been talking about a recession for some time but I really believe that in '91 we're going to have one.

Do you think it will be good for the country?

The recession, of course not.

Our population is getting older and older, therefore, we are looking at further strain on government for medical costs and things of that nature.