

S. O. 31

## CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING

**Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard):** Mr. Speaker, once again, the Conservative government penalizes the middle class. This last budget proposes unjustified cuts in the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation spending on new housing co-ops.

According to Monique Blanchet, who heads the *Fédération des coopératives d'habitation de l'île de Montréal* the federal government's withdrawal from this sector will mean that 500 units will not be built in the Montreal area this year.

The government thus hopes to save \$622 million over the next five years at a time when the need for social housing keeps increasing. In fact, the Conservative policy will affect tens of thousands of units in Quebec only.

I ask the government to reconsider this irresponsible proposal and I plead it to stop penalizing the have nots for its mismanagement.

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[English]

## SMALL BUSINESS

**Mr. Bill Casey (Cumberland—Colchester):** Mr. Speaker, one of the best federal government programs for small businesses is the business improvement loan under the Small Businesses Loans Act. Under this program the federal government will guarantee loans to purchase or improve land, buildings, and equipment for small business.

Until the recent budget the limit for qualifying loans was \$100,000 for small businesses with sales of \$2 million or less. The proposed changes in the budget increased these maximums to \$200,000, to be paid over a 10-year period. The business improvement loans make it easier to borrow money while providing banks with much more security.

This program is not well known to the business community but applications should be available from any chartered bank, from the small business loans administration, an FBDB office, or me. In fact I am sending a brochure on the program to every business in my riding. But if I miss anyone please contact my office and I will forward the information right away.

## CANADIAN RACE RELATIONS FOUNDATION

**Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East):** Mr. Speaker, on September 22, 1988, the Prime Minister, on behalf of all Canadians, apologized for the racist treatment and internment of Japanese Canadians during the Second World War.

As part of the redress package he announced: "In commemoration of all who suffered these injustices, we will establish a Canadian Race Relations Foundation to foster racial harmony and cross-cultural understanding in Canada".

Bill C-63 to establish the foundation was passed in 1990. We learned in Tuesday's budget that this bill has not been proclaimed after two years.

This allows the government to renege on redress promises that were made by this House on behalf of all Canadians. Funding for the foundation and also for the important Heritage Language Institute will be withheld indefinitely.

We agree with the National Association of Japanese Canadians that this delay indicates the eradication of racism and discrimination "is not a high priority of this government".

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## THE LATE GEORGE RICHARD AGAR RICE

**Mr. Jim Edwards (Edmonton Southwest):** Mr. Speaker, the dean of Canadian broadcasters is dead.

George Richard Agar Rice died Tuesday in Edmonton at age 92, having spent 66 years of his life as an active Canadian broadcaster.

From his founding of CJCA for *The Edmonton Journal* in 1922, he went on to establish his own CFRN-AM in 1934, CFRN-FM in 1948 and CFRN television in 1954. He was a co-founder of the CTV network.

Dick Rice was a philanthropist who chose to endow Edmonton and Canada in the performing and visual arts, in post-secondary education and worthy community projects. He was a visionary who anticipated technological and social trends. He was a giver, not a taker, who knew service must precede success.