

S. O. 21

Last week, we learned that the Soviet Union had taken measures to improve the situation of ethnic Armenians in Azerbaijan. We hope that under *Glasnost*, Mr. Gorbachev will continue this reconciliation approach and respond positively to the will of the Armenian people.

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● (1405)

[English]

FINANCE

ENTRY OF GOVERNMENT INTO INTEREST RATE SWAPS MARKET

Mr. Dave Nickerson (Western Arctic): Mr. Speaker, financial services, a few years ago only available in New York, London or Hong Kong, are now an integral part of the Canadian money market. A case in point is the domestic market for interest rate swaps which has grown to about \$20 billion a year.

This year, for the first time, the Government of Canada has entered the domestic market. Although to date only a few hundred million dollars of swaps have been involved, this is an interesting development which will add depth and maturity to the market. At the same time, it marginally reduces interest rates on certain government borrowings, a savings for the Canadian taxpayer.

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APARTHEIDSOUTH AFRICA—GOVERNMENT'S ACTIONS AGAINST
OPPOSITION GROUPS

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill): Mr. Speaker, on Friday we witnessed the pathetic spectacle of the South African Ambassador to Canada trying to deflect criticism of an indefensible regime by claiming that Canada appears to back those who seek the violent overthrow of the South African Government. The fact is that all Canadians hope for a peaceful transition of power in South Africa. It is the Government of South Africa that does not.

Instead of encouraging meaningful dialogue between whites and blacks in South Africa in order to achieve majority rule in that country, the South African Government has banned black opposition groups, imposed media censorship, and has crushed any efforts to demonstrate against the evils of apartheid. Church people are arrested while neo-Nazis march in the streets with complete freedom.

It is not Canada that is encouraging violent revolution in South Africa but rather the repressive and uncompromising policies of the South African Government.

Let there be a revolution, but let it be a revolution of the heart, of the Afrikaaner heart, so that the violence accumulating in the hearts of the victims of apartheid might be transformed into energy for a new multiracial and democratic South Africa. Otherwise, it may indeed come to be the case that the South African Government will have sown the wind and reaped the whirlwind, and it will have no one but itself to blame.

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[Translation]

PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY

MEETING OF QUEBEC WING

Mr. Gilles Bernier (Beauce): Mr. Speaker, the Quebec wing of the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada held its annual meeting in Montreal during the week-end. It was a real success. Our leader, Mr. Mulroney, sounded out his Quebec team. Over 200 fundamental resolutions and positions were drafted by the members and by the people, reflecting Quebec voters' daily concerns.

Mr. Speaker, those resolutions were first drawn up in 10 regional symposiums held throughout Quebec during the past six months. When members of the Conservative Party state their views, they are taken into consideration. They guide decisions taken by the Government. It was a genuine democratic exercise. The Quebec Conservatives have taken an important step toward cleaning up political practices when they adopted the principle of party financing by the people, something about which the Liberals are not happy.

Resolutions on the environment, reform or abolition of the Senate, regional development, agriculture and its renewal, the ageing population, etc, were analyzed. In short, serious discussions, Mr. Speaker. This is how the Conservative party listens. To the organizers, I say well done!

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EXPROPRIATIONS

LA MÉMOIRE DE MIRABEL

Mrs. Lise Bourgault (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, March 27 is a memorable date in Mirabel. On March 27, 1969, the Liberal Government expropriated 97,000 acres of land to establish the Mirabel airport. From that moment was initiated the greatest litigation in the history of Quebec. The expropriated land owners regrouped in the CIAC in order to win back their lands that were unjustly acquired and not needed for the airport. On March 27, 1985, a sixteen-year struggle came to an end; the Conservative Government did justice to the