

S. O. 31

And to add insult to injury, Bob Rae argued that the time was not ripe. What lack of leadership, what lack of courage and political will! Franco-Ontarians will not forget this slap in the face, and Bob Rae may rest assured they will keep up the pressure until they get what is rightfully theirs.

An hon. member: Hear, hear!

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BILL C-21

Mr. Guy H. Arseneault (Restigouche—Chaleur): Mr. Speaker, more than a year ago, the Minister of Employment and Immigration urged this House to pass Bill C-21. In fact, she warned us that any delay in the passage of this bill would keep in limbo about \$800 million that were to be spent on training programs.

[*English*]

In case the minister has yet to notice, the bill has been passed. Why is she not producing the money? When will it be made available? Why the threats? Did the minister not have the time to prepare for the passing of the bill?

Projects and training programs are being held up, not only in my riding of Restigouche—Chaleur, but across the country. Bill C-21 has been passed, but where is the money? The minister should come through on her promise and put the \$800 million in the programs today.

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[*Translation*]

AGRICULTURE

Mr. Jacques Vien (Laurentides): Mr. Speaker, early in December the GATT talks will resume, and these talks will be very important for our farmers.

The Canadian position protects supply management programs that control imports and thus support national farm product production and marketing programs. The Canadian position has not changed since the beginning of the GATT talks, and this position will be maintained. Canada intends to pursue its efforts to have article XI clarified and reinforced, and I am convinced that our representatives at the talks will act in the interests of all Canadian farmers.

[*English*]

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Garth Turner (Halton—Peel): Mr. Speaker, in just over five weeks the GST will come into effect, having a major impact on consumer prices. Some prices will go up. Others will go down. It is important that consumers know in advance what to expect.

The government is playing a role in educating consumers, but what we need is a more co-operative effort between the public and private sectors.

I rise today to congratulate the Retail Council of Canada for developing a series of brochures detailing exactly how the GST will apply to prices in each province. This is an example of responsible corporate citizenry, and every member of the House should congratulate the council for these nine million brochures. They will help make the GST more understandable, and wipe out some of the misinformation and apprehension now in the marketplace.

We all have a role to play; governments, business and consumers, if Canada is to modernize its tax system and build its economy. We have too many walls and not enough bridges between these groups. Today I congratulate the council on helping find a better way.

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[*Translation*]

THE MEDIA

Mrs. Pierrette Venne (Saint-Hubert): Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, November 17, Mediawatch awarded its merit award recognizing improvement in the portrayal of women in the media. This year, the prize was awarded to Raymonde Provencher, a Radio-Québec journalist, for her three-part series entitled "*Femmes en péril*".

Mr. Speaker, it is only too easy sometimes for the media to succumb to the temptation of treating women as objects. Therefore, it is all the more important to recognize media productions that go against the mainstream of portraying women as objects.