

Oral Questions

As we speak, Ontario Hydro is briefing harbour officials in Thunder Bay on the results of those negotiations and later today an announcement is to be made in Calgary.

I am confident that Ontario Hydro, the coal companies, the transporters and handlers have found a way to keep people working to reduce Hydro's costs and to send a clear signal that buying Canadian is a win-win situation. My congratulations to all concerned.

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CATHERINE ANNE FRASER

Mr. Jim Edwards (Edmonton Southwest): Madam Speaker, there were five Alberta women who spearheaded the famous Persons case and the Government of Alberta was the first province to appoint a cabinet minister who was a woman in the Commonwealth. During this International Women's Week it is excellent news to receive the appointment of Madam Justice Catherine Anne Fraser as Chief Justice of Alberta and Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal for the Northwest Territories.

This appointment is not made because Madam Justice Fraser is a woman. She is a jurist of considerable merit, born of Ukrainian and Arab heritage in New Brunswick, a resident of Alberta for most of her life. She is a graduate of the University of Alberta and the University of London. She was admitted to the bar of Alberta in 1971, appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1983, appointed to the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta in 1989 and to the Court of Appeal of Alberta in March 1991.

I am sure all members of the House join me in congratulating Madam Justice Catherine Anne Fraser, the new Chief Justice of Alberta.

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COMMENTS BY MORDECAI RICHLER

Mr. Alex Kindy (Calgary Northeast): Madam Speaker, I join the member for Laurier—Sainte-Marie who condemned yesterday the racist remarks by Mr. Mordecai Richler concerning the French Canadian people of Quebec.

As well I am shocked that the Minister of Multiculturalism and Citizenship did not have the decency to respond to the question posed by the hon. member for Shefford—

Mr. Cooper: Order, order.

Madam Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Bonavista—Trinity—Conception.

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FISHERIES

Mr. Fred J. Mifflin (Bonavista—Trinity—Conception): Madam Speaker, yesterday in this House there was a debate on the Liberal motion that Canada should take immediate steps to extend functional jurisdiction for fishing to the nose and tail of the Grand Banks.

The purpose of the motion was to save an essential national industry and valued way of life for many rural Canadians, in particular Atlantic Canadians, from pillaging of Canada's transboundary fish stocks off the east coast.

There were 18 speakers from British Columbia to Newfoundland and much debate on both sides of the House. The government argued that it wanted to do more of the same, more diplomatic action. The opposition argued more of the same is not working. The motion unfortunately was defeated 90 to 51.

Also, yesterday, Canada's ambassador for fishing conservation ended yet another diplomatic shuttle across Europe without any sign whatsoever that the European Community will curb illegal overfishing off Newfoundland.

Clearly the government's gentle strategy is not working and a concerted escalation in effort is required to send a message to the world that Canada will stand by its people dependent on an industry that is being irretrievably crippled by foreigners.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[Translation]

PEARSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Mr. John Manley (Ottawa South): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. The Canadian airline industry is going through some of the roughest times in its history.

In response to the minister's plans to privatize terminals 1 and 2 at Pearson airport, the president of the Air Transport Association of Canada said this, and I quote: "We want to minimize our costs to be able to compete