

Oral Questions

realize that the program he is suggesting will not work with young children like those who were killed by this product?

Hon. Pierre H. Cadieux (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, I think we should remember that the accident in this case was caused by misuse of a product—if the Hon. Member would care to listen, I will finish my sentence—and if the product is used according to the instructions on the container, there should be no risk of harm for the consumer. Nevertheless, Mr. Speaker, we will start a campaign to increase public awareness, and we hope that parents will help by telling their children about the dangers involved, as they generally do as responsible parents.

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[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ETHIOPIA—CANADIAN POLICY

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs, and it has to do with the increased concern on the part of a number of Canadians with respect to the situation in Ethiopia and the feeling that the Canadian Government has come to the point where it needs to review the uncritical attitude which it appears to have toward the Ethiopian Government and some of the measures that Government has taken recently.

Is the policy of the Government of Canada with respect to the Government of Ethiopia under any kind of review, and does the Minister have anything to tell the House at this time in that regard?

[Translation]

Hon. Monique Landry (Minister for External Relations): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Hon. Member for raising these concerns about the deplorable situation existing in Ethiopia at the present time.

We have indicated on several occasions that the war in Ethiopia makes it extremely difficult to deliver food to the people behind rebel lines.

We have actively endorsed certain steps taken by donor countries and the mission undertaken by the Assistant Secretary-General of United Nations to ask the Ethiopian government to allow international organizations to return to the areas in question and deliver food to the people who are in need.

We are now looking at other possibilities as well, and I can assure the Hon. Member that we are very much concerned about the present situation and that we are considering various options for getting food to the people who need it.

• (1500)

[English]

NEED FOR FOOD TO REACH STARVING PEOPLE

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill): Mr. Speaker, I think it is important for the Secretary of State for External Affairs to say to the House, and through this House to the Government of Ethiopia and to others that are concerned, that there is a place where Canada will draw the line, where Canada will say that the humanitarian need for food to get to starving people, regardless of the political circumstances, is paramount in Canadian policy. I would like to know where that line is.

A great many Canadians are becoming increasingly concerned about the apparently uncritical relationship between Canadian government policy and the actions of the regime in Ethiopia.

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, my colleague has answered the substance of the question with regard to Ethiopia. There is not an uncritical approach on the part of the Government of Canada. We are very much concerned about developments in that country.

The Hon. Member is the spokesperson for his Party on foreign policy. If there are specific changes that he would want to recommend to me or to my colleague with respect to policy affecting Ethiopia, I hope he would do that.

Mr. Speaker: This will be the last question of Question Period, a single question from the Hon. Member for Montreal—Sainte-Marie.

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[Translation]

SUPPLY AND SERVICES

TRUMP PROGRAM—CONTRACT OFFERS—MARINE INDUSTRIES

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Supply and Services. Layton, the main contractor for the TRUMP Program, has given the Minister the bids submitted by Marine Industries on the contracts for the destroyers *Athabaska* and *Huron*.

Could the Minister inform the House whether Marine Industries has been awarded the contract for the refit, as the Prime Minister promised when he said that Quebec shipyards would have their fair share?

[English]

Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, this issue is currently under evaluation. As the Hon. Member will know, we are in the process of opening up even