

S. O. 21

EDUCATION

FUNDING REQUIRED BY UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, to those who insist that Canada's educational system remains strong and internationally competitive, the Ontario Federation of Students Report called "Cut to the Bone" provides a graphic rebuttal with these examples of a crisis of neglect: a university where bake sales are needed to buy books and supplies; another where students wear coats and sweaters to class because there is no heat; a technical university where students have used for 16 years equipment that has a six-year life span; a psychology class so crowded that it mocks fire regulations; and buildings infested with rats and dead mice.

The message is clear. Our universities and colleges are being killed a slow death as some provinces cut funding and others even pilfer federal funds.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) to the rescue with another promise—he will insist that the provinces use federal funds for education. In the meantime, what about the sins of his Government which is draining \$1.5 billion from post-secondary funding?

When will the federal Government take the lead so both it and the provinces treat post-secondary education as an investment in Canada's future? When will the rhetoric stop and the broken promises end? When will the Government stop playing games with the future of our young people and act to ensure the only route to a competitive future is a well educated population?

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[*Translation*]

PORTUGUESE NATIONAL HOLIDAY

TRIBUTE TO FELLOW CITIZENS

Mr. Claude Lanthier (LaSalle): Mr. Speaker, this week, more specifically next Friday, everywhere in Canada and especially in the wonderful riding of LaSalle-Émard, people will be celebrating Portugal's national holiday. Our sizeable Portuguese-Canadian community has preserved and enhanced its rich, ancestral traditions, to the delight of those Canadians who appreciate the benefits of Canadian multiculturalism.

Mr. Speaker, I hope our Portuguese immigrants who have given us such marvellous families will have a wonderful day, which will be a time for joyful reminiscing.

Our fellow citizens from Portugal, from the Algarve coast, the beaches of Estoril, and the Douro valley, have found a new

home along the banks of Lachine Rapids, and we hope they will accept our best wishes on their national holiday.

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[*English*]

IMMIGRATION

SPONSORSHIP OF ADOPTED CHILDREN AND OF GRANDPARENTS

Mr. Cyril Keeper (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, for some time now the Government has been making promises to the immigrant community to have a more generous policy of family reunification. Yet we find out from lawyers in Winnipeg that the Department of Immigration is presently making it much more difficult for families to sponsor adopted children, parents, and grandparents. The Department is putting roadblocks in the way when the Immigration Appeal Board has already said that these roadblocks must be removed.

It is time for the Government not only to make promises to immigrants, but to take some action and tell the Department that, when the Immigration Appeal Board says it is okay to sponsor a relative, the Department ought to allow it to happen.

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[*Translation*]

HOUSING

THE ELDERLY

Mr. Guy Ricard (Laval): Mr. Speaker, the Canadian population is aging all the time and according to statistics, it is predicted that in 2030, one Canadian in four will be 65 or older.

This results in a growing problem of housing for the elderly. It is not realistic to uproot someone from his community when he reaches retirement age. It is unthinkable to break the family ties between young people and their grandparents on the pretext of giving them security.

Mr. Speaker, on the contrary, other solutions to this problem must be found. The nuclear family, this bond between young and old, must be preserved. This wisdom that comes with years must be put to use.

I ask the Minister responsible for housing to deal with this important issue and to discharge his responsibilities by issuing the appropriate orders to CMHC to develop programs and make them available to beneficiaries.