

S.O. 21

[English]

## FORESTRY

## INVESTMENT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA FORESTS

**Mr. Ted Schellenberg (Nanaimo-Alberni):** Mr. Speaker, increased employment is the top priority of the Government. In British Columbia, employment in the forest industry is a primary concern. More than 50 per cent of the economy of my home province is dependent on forest-related activity. One out of every ten Canadians is involved in the forest industry. It is Canada's largest employer.

Our Government will soon be announcing a major reforestation initiative in the Province of British Columbia, incorporating suggestions and proposals from a number of sources, including the mayors of Vancouver Island. Their presence in the gallery today signifies the importance of their proposal, which they call their strategy for survival. Initiated by the District of North Cowichan, the strategy is an investment in our forests—an investment, not a make-work program.

The mayors are asking the Government of Canada and the Government of British Columbia to farm our forests, not mine them. On Vancouver Island alone, this investment will provide stable employment for 1,100 people. It will also be an investment in the future of our children.

It has been said that politicians lack the political will to initiate such a proposal, because politicians prefer to think in two and four year time spans and it takes decades to grow more trees. However, this Government has strong representation from the West. This Government knows how to plan in terms of decades, because decades from now we will still be the Government.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Schellenberg:** I thought my colleagues would like that.

We welcome the mayors of Vancouver Island to Ottawa. Suddenly, Ottawa is not so far away.

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[Translation]

## EMPLOYMENT

## EQUALITY IN THE WORKPLACE

**Mrs. Lucie Pépin (Outremont):** Mr. Speaker, the employment equity program announced last Friday is praiseworthy in its intent, but I would like to draw the attention of the House to the very narrow base from which it proceeds and to the unfortunate consequences this may have.

Actually, dealing with the employment equity problem should include making social benefits available to part-time employees, many of whom are women, as Hon. Members are aware.

It would also mean that work should be considered in a broader perspective, since our work is related to other aspects

of our lives. For instance, how can we talk about employment equity for women without dealing with the issues of daycare centres and parental leave? How can we talk about employment equity for the disabled if we do not deal with the transportation problem? How can we deal with employment equity if we ignore the training issue?

Unfortunately, these areas were not considered last Friday. Perhaps the Government is waiting for the pressure of public opinion.

In any case, I am afraid that because of these shortcomings, the impact of the employment equity program will be far less positive than the Government has led us to believe.

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[English]

## DISASTERS

## CHILE—EARTHQUAKE DAMAGE—ORGANIZATION OF RELIEF MEASURES

**Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina):** Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, March 3, an earthquake hit Chile and tremors continued for a long time. Two hundred people have died, a thousand are missing, and thousands more are forced to live in the streets. The homes of 165,000 people are destroyed, along with the Port of Valparaiso and many other buildings along a stretch of 1,000 miles.

The Government of Pinochet has responded by ordering a shoot-on-sight curfew, and surrounding all the slum areas in the country with army personnel ordered to shoot on sight. The Vicariate of Solidarity, led by the Roman Catholic Church but including other churches and also Jews, is doing relief work through its network throughout the country. The Vicariate has an honourable record of serving the needs of the people without bowing to the political demands of the dictator Pinochet.

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Thousands of Chilean refugees in Canada, organized through the popular democratic movement, are raising relief funds to send through the Vicariate or through the International Red Cross. I call upon the Government and the people of Canada to contribute generously to Chilean earthquake relief through our churches and the Vicariate, or through the International Red Cross. We ought not to send relief through the corrupt fascist government of Pinochet. He has not only directed the assassination of Chile's lawful President, Salvador Allende—

**Mr. Speaker:** I regret to advise the Hon. Member that his time has expired.