

S. O. 21

[Translation]

SHIPBUILDING**URGENT NEED FOR GOVERNMENT TO ESTABLISH TRULY
CANADIAN POLICY**

Mr. Louis Plamondon (Richelieu): In recent weeks, Mr. Speaker, various federal or provincial Ministers have been making all kinds of contradictory statements which have created dismay among shipyard workers in my riding. The suggestion that the \$3.5 billion contract for six frigates might be awarded to one shipyard is an aberration. Given its 50 years of experience in military shipbuilding and know-how acquired through the first frigate program, again this time Marine Industries must be awarded its share of subcontracts, at least two frigates in this instance.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, such infighting among Canadian shipbuilders points to the urgent need to establish a truly Canadian shipbuilding policy so that, once and for all, workers in the Maritime provinces may regain their pride.

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FREE TRADE**ALLEGED UTTERANCES OF ASSOCIATE MINISTER OF NATIONAL
DEFENCE—APOLOGIES DEMANDED**

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, Monday last, at the annual conference on Eastern Ontario's Economic Outlook held in Ottawa, the Associate Minister of National Defence (Mr. Dick) was selling his Prime Minister's free trade agreement. As reported by Mr. Robert Bousquet in the daily newspaper *Le Droit*, in answer to a question on the negative impact of the free trade agreement, he had this to say and I quote:

They had three or five opportunities to modernize under Government programs. Those companies which did not avoid themselves of those opportunities, deserve to shut down.

So said the Minister.

Mr. Speaker, the industries which are victimized by this Prime Minister's trade agreement do not deserve to shut down. Textile workers, like those at the Texturon plant in Hawkesbury, in my constituency, do not deserve to lose their livelihood. This Tory Government deserves to be defeated in election because of its arrogance. I would therefore invite all Canadians to demand apologies from the Associate Minister of National Defense for his lack of sensitivity and compassion for textile workers. If he fails to do so, the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) should fire him. This is all he deserves after all.

● (1405)

[English]

AGRICULTURE**SPECIAL CANADIAN GRAINS PROGRAM—IRRIGATION
FARMERS—EXTENSION OF COVERAGE ADVOCATED**

Mr. Bill Gottselig (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, when farm income from the market-place is undermined by agricultural policies of the United States and the European Economic Community, Canadian farmers can count on the Government to provide strong financial support. Last year's Special Canadian Grains Program provided such support, and farmers can expect similar assistance for the 1987-88 crop year.

Because of administrative difficulties and the need to put the Special Canadian Grains Program in place as quickly as possible in 1986-87, farmers who irrigated crops outside designated irrigation districts did not receive the same level of support as their fellow producers in irrigation districts. For example, in Saskatchewan 80 per cent of the irrigated acreage was not eligible for supplementary benefits that reflected the additional yields and costs of irrigation.

The administrative difficulties in treating all irrigation farmers fairly can now be overcome. The Government could find administrative advice from such sources as the provincial Departments of Agriculture, associations of rural municipalities and the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool.

Irrigation helps farmers overcome such recurring problems as drought. It helps farmers to diversify and to stabilize individual farm operations. The Government's support to the farming community therefore should not put some farmers who irrigate at a disadvantage with other irrigation farmers.

I call upon the Government to take the necessary administrative steps to ensure that additional yields of farmers who irrigate outside irrigation districts are recognized in this year's Special Canadian Grains payment.

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FISHERIES**GEORGES BANK—CALL FOR POSTPONEMENT OF OIL DRILLING
PLANS**

Mr. Jack Harris (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, the fishermen of Nova Scotia are very concerned about the plans of Texaco Canada Resources to drill on Georges Bank. This is a very valuable fishery, a prime fishing area, which includes groundfish and a very valuable stock of scallops.

Premier Buchanan of Nova Scotia and the fishing industry of Nova Scotia in general are flatly opposed to drilling. Through Bill C-75 the Government will be implementing the Canada-Nova Scotia offshore resources plan and agreement. In this agreement there is a provision for the establishment of