

S.O. 21

The award was established on the fiftieth anniversary of the recognition in Canadian law that women were persons and, therefore, could become Senators. Since that landmark ruling, women have fought diligently for legal and economic equality. But the battle is not over. For our part, as parliamentarians, we can support the recognition of homemakers in the Canada Pension Plan. We can actively encourage an increase in the role of women in the political process, and we can seek greater representation of women in the Senate.

For her part, Isabel Ross Hunt, who is an authority on family law, has made important inroads with regard to property rights. But the battle for full equality ought not to be fought by women alone. Indeed, those who seek full recognition of women's rights do so knowing that to achieve the goal is to achieve a better Canada.

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[Translation]

RAILWAYS**AMENDMENT OF CROWSNEST PASS RATE—INDUSTRIAL REPERCUSSIONS**

Mr. Gaston Gourde (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, passing Bill C-155 will mean that capital expenditures of \$16.5 billion will be made by the railways, and 375,000 person-years of employment will be created. Canadian National plans to spend over \$10 billion and Canadian Pacific will be spending \$6.5 billion over the next eight years. Most of the money will be used to renew, upgrade and extend railway networks in the West. Thus, the industrial impact will be felt across the country, not only in Western Canada where much of the construction will be done but also in the East, where the steel and equipment is manufactured. The bulk of these expenditures will depend on whether the Bill is passed and on changes in the Crow rate. The railroads have already started their projects, in anticipation of passage of the Bill. Mr. Speaker, in Quebec we intend to spend \$308 million over the next four years on upgrading equipment and facilities. CN and CP are expected to spend about \$1.4 billion on railway supplies and equipment in the next decade, in the Province of Quebec alone. The Government intends to order 3,840 new hopper cars, most of which will be built in Quebec. Mr. Speaker, this is another good reason why Hon. Members opposite should stop their delaying tactics.

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● (1410)

[English]

HUMAN RIGHTS**SOUTH AFRICA—INTERMENT OF REVEREND SMANGALISO MKHATSHWA**

Mr. Bob Ogle (Saskatoon East): Mr. Speaker, today a referendum is taking place in South Africa to see how South

Africans will react to a new constitution which will permit three Parliaments in that country. One Parliament will represent the whites, of which there are about 4,300,000; one Parliament will represent the coloured, of which there are about 2,400,000; one Parliament will represent the Indians, of which there are about 750,000; and the blacks, who represent about 18,600,000, will not have a Parliament at all. The referendum is not binding. Nevertheless, it is being voted on only by whites. The executive authority of the constitution still permits the President and the executive to be appointed by a panel comprised of a majority of whites. In general, it is a mockery of democratic life. The blacks, who still provide the labour force, are banished to the homelands. In actual fact they are disposable labour. It is a trick to improve the image of South Africa to the rest of the world.

On top of all this, Reverend Smangalis Mkhathswa, a Roman Catholic priest and Secretary General of the Catholic Bishops of South Africa, has been interned. I would like the House of Commons to support this man who is known for his stand on human rights and equality for blacks. We should protest his internment, along with South African Catholic Bishops, and demand that he be removed from detention immediately.

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REMEMBRANCE DAY**PREVENTION OF FUTURE WARS**

Mr. Jack Burghardt (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, on November 11, 1983, Canadians across the land will share in Remembrance Day ceremonies. It is of concern to me that November 11 not only continue to be a day of commemoration, and of pride in those who served their country, but a day to reflect upon the present and future course of our great country.

The events of the last few months have escalated global tensions. Not since the 1962 Cuban missile crisis have we been so acutely aware of a possible movement toward war. On Remembrance Day we will honour those who gave their lives in past wars. Perhaps the greatest tribute we could pay to these courageous men and women is to work as parliamentarians toward preventing future wars and the loss of life and property that would result. It is my hope that we will do everything in our power to promote and ensure world peace.

Furthermore, I urge my hon. colleagues to lend their support to the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) as he embarks next week on a round of talks with world leaders in an effort to reduce global tensions.