

Canadians. Within the last few days British Telecommunications has in turn decided to cut several hundred jobs at the four-year old Renfrew plant and has plans to close down that plant operation entirely after only four years of operation.

To add insult to injury the Government is allowing British Telecommunications to lift the research and development of the Mitel empire out of Canada in spite of the fact that Canadian taxpayers have a major investment in that research and development.

With regard to the sale of Mitel to British Telecommunications, the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion stated on February 26, 1986: "Jobs will be preserved as a result of this transaction as Mitel's manufacturing as well as research and development activities will continue to be carried out in Canada". This sounds like all the other profound promises of this disastrous Government.

Today I have learned that the President of the National Research Council of Canada, the Vice-President and the section head from the Hertzberg Institute—

Some Hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The Hon. Member's time has expired.

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[Translation]

PEACE

MESSAGES FROM HOLY ANGELS PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS

Mr. Fernand Jourdenais (La Prairie): Mr. Speaker, the other day in my riding, I took part in a march for world peace through the streets of Saint-Lambert, with the pupils of Saints-Anges primary school. More than 350 pupils gave me their peace symbols and messages, and I promised I would let the House know about them. Although I cannot read them all, here are a few passages which make one stop and think.

Vincent Dostie (9 years old) said: "To me, peace means no violence and people who have settled their differences. Where there is peace, there is harmony and gentleness. The reason I want peace is because I don't want a third world war."

Geneviève Gosset (9 years old) said: "Peace means love and no more war on this earth. No more poverty but healing the sick and feeding the hungry. What I want most is peace, love and happiness."

Marie-Flo Ménard (9 years old) said: "All we want is tranquility, kindness, goodness, gentleness, calm and harmony. When people start loving each other and there is no more poverty, we will all be happy. If we sent food and clothing to those who need it—"

Mr. Speaker, I think that if we show love and respect for others, we will find the peace so earnestly desired by the people of this earth.

S.O. 21

[English]

UNITED NATIONS

OPENING FOR APPOINTMENT OF WOMAN UNDER-SECRETARY

Ms. Lynn McDonald (Broadview—Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, Canadians were startled to hear that there is not a qualified woman in Canada for an important position at the under-secretary level at the United Nations who would be charge of the public information office. This is especially embarrassing since Canada itself has publicly criticized the UN for being such an all-male club. Canada has urged the UN to seek out and appoint women to senior positions. Preaching equality but not acting on it is not appreciated anywhere in Canada except perhaps the Petroleum Club.

Apparently a few Canadian women were approached about the job and but were not available or interested, but surely the Government could look further. Doubtless the Department of External Affairs itself needs to fill more senior positions with women so it will have the necessary contacts with well qualified women. Now that the Secretary General has asked for a nomination, we expect the Department of External Affairs to keep looking until it can make a good nomination.

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AIR CANADA

CUT IN DIRECT SERVICE BETWEEN EDMONTON AND OTTAWA

Mr. William G. Lesick (Edmonton East): Mr. Speaker, on October 26 Air Canada unilaterally, without consultation, deprived 1.5 million citizens of Edmonton and Alberta of daily direct flights to Ottawa. This route was economically sound. It is inconceivable that Edmonton, the capital of Alberta, would be forced to face a cut in its link to the nation's capital.

Yesterday morning I met with the President of Air Canada who claimed the airline must save money so it must cut the line. Due to the newly extended length of the flight, Edmontonians will be obliged to add an extra day to their travel time between Ottawa and Edmonton. This added expense of overnight accommodation and time lost at work will cost western Canadians extra tens of thousands of dollars in travelling expenses.

● (1440)

I would like to state here and now that the Crown corporation Air Canada is doing a disservice to the city of Edmonton and its people. I urge Air Canada to reconsider its decision, restore the direct route, and treat Edmonton in a fair and just manner.