

S.O. 21

Some facilities are now in place. There is a beautiful ski lodge in the County of Restigouche. There is Sugarloaf Park, a provincial park. Millions of dollars have been invested there by the provincial and federal governments, providing a chair lift and other appropriate facilities. In the summer there are trailer facilities, tennis courts and walking trails. A new slide, the first of its type in eastern Canada, will be in operation this summer. As a result of co-operation from the federal Government, completion will be this spring. It will cost between \$700,000 and \$800,000.

As I mentioned earlier, the Minister of Tourism was in my constituency not long ago. There are a number of other projects that will require his support. Other development required in the region involves marina facilities. These essential attractions must be provided to draw people to our area. The number of people who ski in our area has a very positive impact on our economy. Because of our unemployment problems, we must direct more funds to tourism. We must develop the facilities that are needed. We must not only be ready to attract people to share the beauty of our region, but we must provide attractions so that they will spend some time there.

The annual salmon festival brings thousands of people to the area. I have been privileged to participate in this event. I want publicly to salute those who give of their time, not only those in the business of tourism, but all those willing and ready to lend a positive hand to continue bringing developments to the area, thereby creating more jobs and stimulating the economy to an even greater degree.

May I call it one o'clock?

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Herbert): Order. It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock this afternoon.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

CALL FOR STRICTER AUTOMOBILE EMISSION CONTROL

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Caccia) was host to Environment Ministers and their officials from nine European countries and the ten provinces to wrestle with the acid rain problem. At the conclusion a pact was signed to cut sulphur

dioxide emissions by at least 30 per cent by 1993. Canada has already gone on record as approving acid rain reductions of 50 per cent by 1994.

Canada's auto emission regulations are three times more lenient than those in the United States. I hope and pray the Canadian Government will move quickly to follow the United States in this respect. Over 80 per cent of cars manufactured in Canada are sold in the United States and are equipped with stricter controls. It is simple logic that new regulations could be approved immediately requiring all models, starting with 1987 cars, to have tighter controls.

I am aware the Minister of Transport (Mr. Axworthy) and other Departments are involved in this decision, but now is the time. This will show the United States that we mean business and help to get it to move in a positive way to reduce its acid rain which is pouring across the border into Canada, especially into my riding of Parry Sound-Muskoka where 70 per cent of all acid rain comes from the United States.

I wish to congratulate the Minister of the Environment for his efforts, for his great concern, and for hosting this important conference—

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

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[Translation]

ACID RAIN

AGREEMENT ON SULPHUR EMISSIONS

Mr. Pierre Gimaiel (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State (Mines)): Mr. Speaker, I wish to join my hon. friend from Parry Sound-Muskoka (Mr. Darling) in applauding the signing of an agreement on sulphur dioxide emissions yesterday here in Ottawa, especially since, during the past four years, we have been working together on a sub-committee on acid rain. The agreement signed yesterday in this country is unique in the world today. Ten countries agreed and have committed themselves to reducing sulphur dioxide emissions by at least 30 per cent over the next ten years.

Mr. Speaker, this is a powerful political gesture, made on Canadian soil and demonstrating above all the will of the Canadian Government to take action against acid rain, this phenomenon of a modern age, and to ensure that present and future generations of Canadians will live in a healthy environment.

Throughout preparations for this agreement, people have been helping us. Groups made representations across Canada and also in foreign countries such as the United States, explaining the problem to politicians and stressing the importance of fighting acid rain. Today, I am just as pleased as they are and I want to thank them all, without singling out anyone one group, for the work they have done. Yesterday, the signing