HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, July 27, 1988

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 21

[English]

TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—WATER RESOURCES

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, from newspaper reports it would appear that the Minister for International Trade (Mr. Crosbie) has finally understood that Canadian water is threatened by the Prime Minister's (Mr. Mulroney) trade deal.

We learned today that an amendment to the trade deal will likely be made by the Government so as to exclude Canadian water from the trade Bill and prevent exports and diversions. This would be a welcome development. Yet, to be effective, the Minister should take the advice of Mel Clark, a former GATT negotiator for Canada, and Don Gamble of the Rawson Academy of Aquatic Sciences, and amend the trade agreement itself.

• (1405)

Unfortunately, the Minister said he will not amend the agreement. In light of that decision, the Prime Minister could save us all a lot of time and energy by calling an election and letting Canadians decide whether or not the Government should sell our water down the river.

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PROFESSIONAL SECRETARIES INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

CANADIAN'S ELECTION AS PRESIDENT

Mrs. Shirley Martin (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, today in Kansas City, Missouri, Sandra Brown of the city of Stoney Creek in Lincoln riding will be elected international President of the Professional Secretaries International Association. The association

represents 40,000 professionals from 65 countries around the world. It has been 21 years since a Canadian held this position.

Sandra's contribution and involvement in the association for the last 16 years will serve her well in her upcoming leadership role. Her election is an example of the ever increasing involvement of Canadians in shaping policies in global organizations. Lincoln is proud of Sandra and wishes her well.

PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

BRITISH COLUMBIA—SPYING OPERATION ON CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR CHOICE ON ABORTION

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, British Columbians were shocked and outraged yesterday to learn that former Social Credit Attorney General, Brian Smith, had hired four private detectives to infiltrate and spy on Concerned Citizens for Choice on Abortion. Over \$12,000 of public funds were spent on this sleazy operation which involved, among other things, secretly taping conversations and stealing membership lists.

The operation was co-ordinated through the Vancouver law offices of Farris, Vaughan, Wills and Murphy and, in particular, by Smith's legal henchman, Jack Giles. Brian Smith says he reported regularly to the office of Premier Bill Vander Zalm through principal secretary David Poole.

It is absolutely disgusting that government power should be abused in this way to spy on a respected group of citizens seeking to establish a free-standing clinic offering abortion and other reproductive health services in British Columbia. The current Attorney General should immediately turn over all records collected in this immoral operation.

I call upon Conservative Members of Parliament to join with me and my colleagues, and the vast majority of British Columbians, in saying to the discredited, collapsing, unethical Vander Zalm Government, in the name of God, go!

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AGRICULTURE

CROP INSURANCE—PROVISION OF DROUGHT ASSISTANCE

Mr. Geoff Wilson (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, there is a cash flow problem facing those prairie