

## S. O. 31

The environmental damage from acid rain is well over \$1 billion per year in Canada, well over \$5 billion per year in the United States. A cut of 10 million of sulphur oxides in the U.S. will cost \$15 billion, a cost borne in just three years by the U.S. environment.

Canada had best get moving seriously on cleaning up our acid rain sources, existing and proposed, if we are to expect credibility in our fight to get the U.S. to do the same.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

### THE ENVIRONMENT

**Mr. Gabriel Desjardins (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, once again the federal Government, through its Environment Minister, showed its leadership at the federal-provincial conference of Environment Ministers held this week in Charlottetown.

The federal Government agreed to invest \$100 million in the clean-up of abandoned contaminated sites in this country. The provinces agreed to do their share by contributing \$100 million to this project.

Mr. Speaker, when we talk about the number of abandoned contaminated sites in this country, Abitibi-Témiscamingue probably and unfortunately holds the record for the most sites in any given region. Governments must act responsibly in this case, and that is why I demand a fair share of this agreement for my region, so that we can deal with the serious environmental problems caused by mine tailings, a major source of pollution.

I therefore want to ask the MNAs for the Abitibi-Témiscamingue area for their support in this attempt to take advantage of the opportunity we now have to do something positive for our environment.

[English]

### BILL C-21

**Mrs. Marlene Catterall (Ottawa West):** Mr. Speaker, the government has ignored the vital expertise of the public service employees who deal every day with out of work Canadians.

The employees of Canada employment centres have called Bill C-21 an incompassionate piece of legislation, forcing them to play a more negative policing role and eroding trust between them and their clients.

They are the ones every day who face the desperation, frustration, and anger of the unemployed without adequate resources.

[Translation]

The employment sector in the Department of Employment and Immigration has suffered substantial attrition during the past five years as a result of Tory cut-backs.

[English]

The minister's sole excuse for the devastation she is foisting on the unemployed is more training, more help finding a job, more employment options, yet she has not provided for one additional employee to give these services.

What she has done is to provide in Bill C-21 for the contracting out of these services. Bill C-21 sets up the privatization of Canada employment centres.

The minister intends to pay for this with increased premiums and with the food and rent money she is taking out of the pockets of the unemployed.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

### THE ARTS

**Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond):** Mr. Speaker, last Sunday, October 15, Quebec's cultural industry paid tribute to its artists and performing artists at the 11th Adisq Gala.

Forty-five Felix trophies were given to outstanding members of our artistic and cultural community, including Drummondville's cultural centre and its director, Mr. Roland Janelle, who was awarded the title of "Diffuseur de l'année" in Quebec.