

in four adults needs help just to read the daily newspaper. Four million Canadians cannot read street signs, fill out job applications, or read labels on consumer goods, simple daily activities which most of us take for granted.

In my riding the Parkdale Community Centre initiated the Parkdale Literacy Project last February through a federal constituency grant. The program presently co-ordinates 35 student-tutor pairs, publishes a monthly newsletter, and organizes such activities as film nights. The most telling success of the program is the student publication which is a collaborative effort of students and tutors. Imagine the sense of pride and personal achievement each student felt seeing words, once intimidating, now in print.

Literacy is an issue of human rights and social justice. Every person should have the right to and benefit of a basic education. Being able to read and to integrate in workaday activities is the first step toward individual advancement. It is the first step toward eradicating illiteracy in Canada. I call on all Canadians to support their local literacy projects. Through awareness and support we can all help the four million Canadians who are unable to read and write, become literate.

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AIR SAFETY

AIR CANADA—EFFECT OF FLIGHT ATTENDANTS' STRIKE

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina West): Mr. Speaker, I am sure all Members hope the current round of negotiations between the Canadian Airline Flight Attendants and Air Canada will bring an end to the strike and a return to the excellent safety, security and service that the public has become used to with Air Canada. However, Members on this side are deeply concerned about the lack of interest displayed by the Government in safety standards and about its taking sides with the company in a labour dispute.

There have been several instances of underqualified flight attendants being removed from aircraft by the pilot in command because of incompetence, only to be returned to duty on a different aircraft without further training or scrutiny by the MOT. Several other reported instances of flight attendants' incompetence while in the air have also gone uninvestigated by the Ministry of Transport.

This morning the Minister of Transport (Mr. Mazankowski) asked CALFAA to do his job for him by asking it to provide the evidence for its concern about safety standards. Why is it that the Minister must rely upon the resources of CALFAA to monitor safety in the skies when it is his job? Why has he not increased the number of inspectors for cabin crews from the low level of eight to do his own monitoring, instead of asking the union to give him information that should be at his fingertips?

We are also concerned about the fact that Canada Employment Centres have been used as a recruiting tool by the airline to find strike breakers. This unprecedented move on behalf of the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Miss Mac-

Donald) must discontinue because the Government is taking sides in a labour dispute. We believe that air safety should not be jeopardized for political ideology—

Mr. Speaker: I regret to advise the Member that his time has expired.

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MULTICULTURALISM

APPOINTMENT OF HON. LINCOLN ALEXANDER AS LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF ONTARIO

Mr. Peter Peterson (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) has chosen wisely in selecting Hamilton's own Lincoln Alexander as the next Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. Linc, as he is known to us in Hamilton, clearly established an outstanding reputation among the voters of Hamilton West that is second to none. I have personally known him for more than 20 years and I can say that he is a man of few pretensions. He enjoyed an excellent rapport with his constituents which would be the envy of every Member today. His continued success in five general elections certainly bears that out.

Similarly, as the Minister of Labour in 1979, and more recently as Chairman of the Workers' Compensation Board, Linc's name was synonymous with public service of the highest order. He is certain to bring qualities of dedication, compassion, and dignity, which are prerequisites, to his new position at Queen's Park. His appointment, Mr. Speaker, marks a proud day for my riding of Hamilton West and a historic day for Canada.

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SHIPBUILDING

CONTRACTS AWARDED TO ICELANDIC SHIPYARD

Mr. Joe Reid (St. Catharines): Mr. Speaker, some things are hard to change. With Canadian shipyards on lay-off struggling for survival, Canadian ship construction, and now repair, refit, and conversion go to foreign yards. All Canadians contribute to the support of the fishing industry. Historically the fishing industry and the shipbuilding and repair industries have gone hand in hand. In the past those yards were there when the fishing industry needed them. It is in the interest of all those fishing that Canadian shipyards survive.

Now two major trawler conversion jobs are to be undertaken in an Icelandic shipyard. We know those off-shore yards are subsidized, but we know as well that it is cheaper to meet that subsidy and keep Canadians working than it is to support the unemployed on assistance programs.

The present government policies, which permit foreign-built vessels to be freely imported and major conversions and repairs to be carried out in foreign yards, result in the loss of thousands of Canadian jobs. If we are to meet the challenges