

Canadian purchases will in fact go to an American company.

Will Canadians get jobs? The projection is that once Syncrude has been built there will be only 400 on-site jobs because this is a project which has been designed by the oil companies to be capital-intensive. What about protection of our environment? No discussion can be entered into in terms of the development of our resources without some consideration of the environment. Regarding this massive Syncrude project, and indeed the whole development of the tar sands, it cannot be undertaken without a thorough look at the environmental problem and the implications for that particular area of our country. There are ample examples of development undertaken without adequate, proper concern for the environment.

The best example of this kind of mismanagement of the environment which I can think of occurred in the area I represent, which is the Sudbury basin, where Inco and Falconbridge Mine, and before them the Mond Nickel Company, carried out a major part of their hard rock mining and smelting of a primary product. Today we see here very vividly the damage caused in large part by ignorance but mostly by deliberate action, having full knowledge of its effects on land, air, sea and human life.

May I call it five o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[Translation]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Central Nova (Mr. MacKay)—Labour relations—Suggested creation of labour relations council—Government position; the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser)—Labour conditions—Proposal to establish body to set standards for workers in various categories—Government position.

It being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely notices of motions, public bills.

Mr. Lefebvre (Pontiac): Mr. Speaker, discussions have led to the agreement that motion No. 25 be dealt with today.

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. members have heard the suggestion of the hon. member for Pontiac (Mr. Lefebvre) that there is agreement to proceed with notice of motion No. 25 appearing in the name of the hon. member for Okanagan-Kootenay (Mr. Johnston) and that the motions preceding motion No. 25 be allowed to stand. Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Home Canning

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

[English]

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATION OF SHORTAGE OF LIDS AND JARS USED IN HOME CANNING

Mr. Howard Johnston (Okanagan-Kootenay) moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should investigate the severe shortage of lids and jars used in home canning of fruits and vegetables and should instigate measures to ensure that a sufficient supply will be available to the Canadian market next year.

He said: The particular problem which is the basis of my resolution was the first problem presented to me the morning after the election of July 8. The telephone rang early and I assumed I was about to be congratulated by a well-wisher, but the question was not a matter of personal congratulations but, rather, what was going on in regard to a severe shortage of lids for wide-mouthed Mason jars used in canning fruits and vegetables and home produce. I had been so busy with the election campaign that I was hardly aware the shortage had developed. I can assure the House that the call which came the morning after the election was by no means the last call. A serious shortage had developed. It affected many of my constituents in the northern part of the Okanagan Valley, the area I represent, and also people in the southern end of the valley as well as the people in other fruit and vegetable growing regions of British Columbia and western Canada.

● (1700)

My reaction to these calls was to make inquiries of the federal and provincial departments concerned with consumer affairs. I placed this matter before the House in the form of a motion because I learned that one could not, by July 9, do anything to correct the shortage of lids which affected everyone in 1974. All the powers of the provincial and federal governments were insufficient to correct the shortage and the lost ground could not be recovered at that late date. The best we could do was warn manufacturers of the situation and urge them to have lids ready for 1975. I could not give any better reply than that to all those who inquired of me on this topic.

I was greatly concerned because I knew that the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs had been issued a clear warning in 1973 that there would be a shortage of supplies. There had been a shortage in 1973 which had resulted from inflationary pressures on prices. Many people thought it would be wise and sensible to return to the earlier practice of canning the surplus of their own gardens or of buying the surplus of local orchards and gardens and doing what had been done in the past, canning this produce at home. Consequently, in 1973 the demand for canning supplies outstripped supply. Nothing was done to curb inflation and the rate of inflation increased, so that by 1974 there was no longer a mere shortage; there was an absolute vacuum of supplies, with no possibility of purchasing home canning equipment. I suppose demand for such equipment had quadrupled since 1972.

I do not see why demand will not double again next year. As we know, the government has taken no clear action on inflation, and inflationary pressures will become