

S. O. 21

The Government must make a commitment to transport cattle and to help move feed into the drought area. Emergency funds are needed now for new dug-outs, new wells, and emergency water systems. I call on the Government to make a commitment now to the Prairies to assist in this worst of natural disasters in western Canada.

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NATIONAL FOREST WEEK**IMPORTANCE OF FORESTS TO SASKATCHEWAN ECONOMY**

Mr. John Gormley (The Battlefords—Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, this is National Forest Week. Although Saskatchewan is recognized for its agricultural production, it is easy to overlook the fact that half of our province is covered by forests. These forests have played a key role in Saskatchewan's development, providing the economic and industrial base for more than 30 communities. These towns owe their livelihood to the commercial and recreational use of the forest.

Maintaining this resource through forest renewal and intensive management is vitally important. In recognition of this the Government of Canada is spending over \$1.1 billion with the provincial Governments to enhance forest management.

In Saskatchewan we know how important a role forestry plays. All Canadians should make every effort to learn more about our forests and their prominent place in Canadian life.

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● (1410)

HISTORIC EVENTS**POLAND—ANNIVERSARY OF 1791 CONSTITUTION**

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill): Mr. Speaker, today the people of Poland are celebrating the May 3 Constitution of 1791, which was the first recognition of fundamental rights in an age of despotic rule in Europe. The legacy of this centuries-old struggle for human rights continues to unfold in Poland today.

In 1980 the world saw the birth of the independent trade union Solidarity in response to a deteriorating economic crisis which was mismanaged by the Government. Despite martial law, Solidarity inspired a broad social movement on human rights. Today, Polish workers are again exercising the right to strike, guaranteed by international conventions to which Poland is a signatory, in the face of sky rocketing price increases and no prospect of managerial reform within a rigidly hierarchical party system.

Instead of taking the opportunity to negotiate a social accord as persistently offered by Lech Walesa, the Polish

Government has launched widescale arrests of Solidarity leaders and provocation of workers demonstrating peacefully for real economic reforms.

The New Democratic Party considers both outside interference in Polish affairs and the desperate attempt by the Polish Government to impose a temporary solution through internal force as unacceptable. Canada should make it clear to the Polish Government that only a peaceful solution leading to real economic reform with the support of a broad range of social and trade union organizations, can expect approval from Canadians.

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UNIONS**INTER-UNION MEMBERSHIP RAIDS**

Mr. John Oostrom (Willowdale): Mr. Speaker, on May 9 the Canadian labour movement will be holding a convention in Vancouver. Their get-together promises to produce more fireworks than the Liberal Party.

Consider the following. One of the main points of tension is the present vicious in-fighting between unions raiding each other's memberships.

The leader of the 23,000 members of the United Food and Commercial Workers arranged secretly with the CAW to take its members. The rank and file were not even notified and the raider is none other than Bob White, who prefers to call his action an "opportunity for change in unions". Here is the same Bob White who screams, whenever there is a corporate takeover, that rights are being ignored. It seems that "solidarity forever" and "a democracy in the union movement" are just shallow rhetoric.

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[Translation]

PENSIONS**IMPROVEMENTS TO SYSTEM**

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montréal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I am sorry to say that Canadians between the ages of 40 and 60 are very disappointed in the Tories.

When we look at these people who are nearing retirement, less than 50 per cent have a private pension plan, three million Canadian women are not eligible for the Quebec and Canada Pension plans, and 95 per cent of the private pension plans that do exist are not indexed.

Mr. Speaker, I am therefore relieved that the Liberals have agreed to improved access to private pension plans, portability, gradual retirement, participation of homemakers in the