

S.O. 22

tially a front for espionage in Canada. Czechoslovakia is a police state that has no place—

Mr. Speaker: I must advise the Hon. Member his time has expired.

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[Translation]

INDUSTRY

CONSEQUENCES OF TEMPORARY ABANDONMENT OF ALCAN ALUMINUM PLANT PROJECT IN QUEBEC

Mr. Jean-Pierre Blackburn (Jonquière): Mr. Speaker, you are undoubtedly aware that the world's largest aluminium smelting complex operated by Alcan Aluminium Ltd. is located in my riding of Jonquière. During a press conference given yesterday by that company management it was learned that the \$1 billion major investment project unveiled in April 1984 has been shelved *sine die*, owing to the slumping aluminium world market.

The temporary cancellation of this project is a hard blow to the social and economic interest groups of the Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean region. We could have been witness to an economic recovery, but the impact of this news is nothing short of disastrous. It entails the loss or at least the delay of a \$1 billion new capital injection in our region, along with dire consequences for a number of local contractors, not to mention the direct or indirect loss of hundreds of temporary jobs among contractors, subcontractors and material suppliers.

As if that were not enough, one can only sympathize with the taxpayers since they will not be able to benefit from the taxes which the new smelter would have generated.

Still, Mr. Speaker, the construction project would have had a negative impact since 600 permanent workers would have been laid off at the Jonquière plant. It is a reprieve for the federation of united aluminium workers.

The monitoring committee responsible for protecting jobs in the aluminium industry will have to make the best of this reprieve and double its efforts to find other solutions to this problem.

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FISHERIES

SALE OF TAINTED TUNA

Mr. Carlo Rossi (Bourassa): Mr. Speaker, the tuna affair is starting to smell worse and worse for the Prime Minister and his party. Pretending to be shocked at the very idea, the Prime Minister claimed he was not aware that the tainted tuna, which was not good enough for Ethiopia and was turned down by the Canadian Forces, was on the shelves of our food stores.

Premier Hatfield of New Brunswick knew about it, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. Fraser) knew about it, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources knew about it, and a number of officials at the Department of Justice, the Department of National Health and Welfare, the Department of National Defence and the Department of External Affairs knew about it. The man in charge of caucus relations in the Prime Minister's Office, Mr. MacAdam, knew about it, and the Prime Minister's communications assistant, Mr. Anderson, knew about it as well, and now the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker, that clown, would have us believe that he was the only one who was not informed.

Funny way to run a Government, Mr. Speaker. One thing is certain, however, that without that television broadcast, the tainted tuna would still be on our shelves.

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[English]

HOUSING

SOCIAL HOUSING PROGRAMS—GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. Neil Young (Beaches): Mr. Speaker, the federal Government has played a major role in the supply of assisted housing since the early 1940s. For the first time in over 40 years there is a real possibility that it will hand over this control to the provinces. A leaked B.C. cabinet document calls for increased emphasis on shelter allowances and more participation by the private sector in developing and managing social housing programs.

Government assistance to the private sector has never ensured a long-term supply of well maintained, affordable housing. In contrast, the non-profit and co-operative housing developed by non-profit voluntary associations are quality affordable accommodation. These programs are at stake in the federal-provincial negotiations.

The federal Government must continue to take the leadership role because of its control over interest rates, tax policy, income support programs and policies affecting native communities. Transferring housing policy to the provinces can only lead to greater disparity in the "have-not" regions of Canada.

The future of non-profit and co-operative housing has been uncertain for the past few years. It is time for the federal Government to map out a long-term housing policy and programs that include a strong and continuing federal presence in the housing field.

It is time the Government started to think about policy and programs rather than following its ideological drift with no policy and programs.