

S. O. 31

A similar report in the *Journal de Montreal* states that small investors in the Micot project lost more than \$160,000.

One can only wonder if Mr. Kealey's cries of injustice are merely an attempt to deflect attention from his own failures.

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GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Lawrence MacAulay (Cardigan): Mr. Speaker, the GST has become an economic disaster for Canada and for Prince Edward Island in particular. All areas of the economy are suffering, particularly the tourism industry.

• (1410)

When our American friends come to Prince Edward Island and sit in a restaurant and order a meal, GST is added. This leaves a bad taste in their mouths.

Canadians used to visit the United States for a vacation, not to outfit their children for school. Recently, the director of the Maine State Publicity Bureau said he was very sorry that Canadians could not be patriotic and support their own businesses, but one can only be patriotic so long. It is unfortunate that the economic policies of this government are hurting the Canadian people so much.

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[Translation]

MINING INDUSTRY

Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, to maintain consistent production values and ensure the renewal of mineral reserves, mainly in the precious metals sector, Quebec must do a certain amount of off-site exploration costing from 250 to 300 million dollars a year, with 80 per cent in Abitibi-Témiscamingue.

In 1990, only \$145 million worth of off-site exploration was carried out in Quebec. In 1991 things seem to be even worse. For several months, the *Association des prospecteurs du Québec* has been trying to find new sources of financing but the response from Ottawa has been negative. According to Mr. Jean Rainville, the problem seems to be with the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, where the oil industry appears to

come first and the mining and exploration sector in Quebec is no longer a priority.

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[English]

TOURISM

Mr. Jim Jordan (Leeds—Grenville): Mr. Speaker, the Canadian tourist industry has just recorded its poorest summer in more than a decade. Canadians travelling to the U.S. on a regular basis continues to spiral upward, while American tourists continue to avoid Canada.

Canadian retail sale losses continue as Canadians are lured to the U.S. Same day trips to the U.S. rose to 5.9 million in July, our busiest tourist month, up almost 10 per cent for the same month in the previous year.

When will the minister of revenue offer more than a mere acknowledgement of the problem and offer instead some new initiatives to help retailers in the tourist industry regain some of the lost revenues that they have experienced, particularly now that the full impact of the GST is taking its toll on the Canadian retail sales and the Canadian tourist industry?

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UKRAINE

Mr. Jim Edwards (Edmonton Southwest): Mr. Speaker, 10 days ago I had the honour of assisting our external affairs minister in opening Canada's new Consulate-General in Kiev, the capital of Ukraine.

Among the emerging democracies of Eastern Europe, none has closer ties to Canada of blood and culture than Ukraine. Today, a million Canadians proudly claim Ukrainian ancestry, among them our distinguished Governor General.

This month marks the centenary of permanent Ukrainian settlement in Canada at Edna-Star, just northeast of Edmonton. And so it is timely that as Ukraine asserts its independence, its current leader, the Chairman of the Supreme Rada, Leonid Makarovich Kravchuk, pays an official visit on Monday to Ottawa.

Chairman Kravchuk was a hardline ideological Communist until one month ago today when Ukraine proclaimed its independence. Now he proclaims himself a Ukrainian Nationalist.