

S.O. 21

The Government has had a white paper on trust companies before the House and the Government is aware that there are real concerns with respect to the administration of matters involving the Department of Insurance and in connection with all of the powers the Government has over trust companies, mortgage companies, insurance companies, and banks. These security problems should be referred to a special committee of this House forthwith so that the House can make the necessary inquiries, hear evidence, and assist the Government in introducing new legislation, and organizing its supervisory and licensing powers. Let us get Bill C-142 passed. Let us get all matters concerning financial institutions before a special committee of this House. Let us get on with it.

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AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

FAILURE TO MEET COMMITMENT TO WORKERS AND TAXPAYERS

Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant): Madam Speaker, Canadians were again treated to wise words from the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Lumley) today when he vowed that to wring jobs from Chrysler he would "play hardball". Where has this Minister been and what has he been doing that he is only now deciding to get tough? Is there any reason for Canadians to believe that the Government will deliver job security to the industry now, and not just more empty promises and fewer and fewer jobs?

Canadians last year gave up \$1.6 billion in duties at the border under the auto agreement, while the United States only gave up \$500 million. That was a \$1.1 billion giveaway, and for that Canadians received considerably less than \$1 billion in new investment. That is only 7 to 8 per cent of new investment in North America, and much less than our fair share.

While Chrysler seems to be leading the way in renegeing on its promises to Canadians, the entire industry is not meeting its commitment to Canadian auto workers or taxpayers, and it is time the Government showed the auto manufacturers that it will not accept any more excuses.

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DISARMAMENT

SUPPORT URGED FOR BAN ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS

Mr. Garnet M. Bloomfield (London-Middlesex): Madam Speaker, recent allegations emanating from Afghanistan contend that Soviet MIGs dropped cannisters that emitted a crippling brown gas on Moslem rebels. I am very concerned that such reports are becoming more and more commonplace in recent years. This being the case, and in light of the fact that the UN Committee on Disarmament is convening in New York today, February 1, 1983, to consider an agreement on the prohibition of chemical weapons, I would urge the Government

of Canada to champion the call for a full and verifiable ban on all chemical weapons, at the United Nations.

A convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxic Weapons was entered into in 1972, but the problem of chemical weapons remains. In the UN the emphasis is on gaining agreement to prohibit the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons, and on the destruction of existing stocks.

The horrific results of such weapons can no longer be tolerated by any thinking nation. For the sake of all humanity, and in the pursuit of humanity, I strongly urge the Government of Canada to instruct the Canadian delegation at the UN Committee on Disarmament to work tirelessly to ensure that the negotiations which will begin today will be successful so that the spectre of chemical weapons can be finally removed.

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RAILWAYS

CROWSNEST PASS RATE—EFFECT OF ANNOUNCED CHANGES

Mr. Len Gustafson (Assiniboia): Madam Speaker, the announcement in Winnipeg today by the Minister of Transport (Mr. Pepin) is startling and bad news for the western grain producers. The Government has absolutely disregarded some of the important economic factors that exist in the farming economy. The cost of production has increased at least 25 per cent while the price of grain on the world market has dropped significantly.

Farm bankruptcies have increased by 65 per cent over the past year. It will be impossible for grain producers to accept responsibility for increased freight rates. Yet the Government and the Minister of Transport by their announcement today seemingly turn a deaf ear to presentation after presentation made by farm groups.

I call upon the Liberal Government and the Minister responsible to reconsider an action that will be financially impossible to bear for the western grain producers.

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[Translation]

FINANCE

NON-TAXATION OF WORKERS IN NORTHERN CITIES

Mr. André Maltais (Manicouagan): Madam Speaker, on behalf of the workers in the northern cities of Fermont, Gagnon, Shefferville, Labrador City and Wabush, I would like to ask the officials of the Department of Finance to review their recommendation to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Lalonde) that the allowances of northern workers be taxed because of the hardship imposed on these people who have created a very strong economy in the region. Furthermore,