

er a preferential treatment for Air Canada by way of Government subsidies is justified.

Several foreign air carriers would like to do business in Canada as a result of the deregulation process announced by the Government. To allow a Crown corporation to compete with those air lines as well as with Canadian private corporations, the rules of the market must prevail during the negotiations with the union and as far as its sources of income are concerned.

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● (1410)

TEXTILES

GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Alain Tardif (Richmond-Wolfe): Mr. Speaker, the former Leader of the Opposition, who is now Prime Minister, stated in Sherbrooke on May 4, 1984: "The quota policy would remain unchanged..." And the Prime Minister, the then Leader of the Opposition, spoke against free trade in those sectors. He went on to say he would not "bow" to the pressures that might come from Common Market countries, the United States, for less stringent quotas on shoes and textile products. He added this, and I quote: "I will make no bones about telling this to President Reagan when I meet him in Washington next month. I will see to it that our interest are protected at all times. Friendships have their price. Neighbours like us are worth a lot..."

Today, Mr. Speaker, over 15,000 jobs directly depend on those three industries in the Eastern Townships, and it is therefore vital that the Government should take initiatives, and adequate steps needed to protect and save 15,000 jobs as well as the economy of the whole Eastern Townships area.

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INDUSTRY

ACHIEVEMENT OF CARREFOUR DE LA SOUS-TRAITANCE

Mr. André Plourde (Kamouraska-Rivière-du-Loup): Mr. Speaker, the major event in the industrial sector over these last 20 years is beyond controversy the achievement of "Carrefour de la sous-traitance" for Eastern Quebec, on October 16, 17 and 18 in Rivière-du-Loup.

The fact that "Carrefour de la sous-traitance" involves both the industries in Eastern Quebec and the public sector is in my view exceptional for the present and most significant for the economic future of our area.

In this respect, I cannot but commend the officers of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Grand-Portage for that worthwhile initiative. The industrial potential of the

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Kamouraska-Rivière-du-Loup constituency and Eastern Quebec will never have been so well represented within a single event.

This will give entrepreneurs, potential investors, Crown corporations and the various Government departments an awareness of the vitality of our industrialists. By pursuing as its main objective the economic development of the area, "Carrefour de la sous-traitance" will give both the public sector and private participants an opportunity to meet, explore new markets, and indeed make good deals.

It is within that spirit that the Department of Regional Industrial Expansion and the Department of Employment and Immigration were actively involved in the achievement of "Carrefour de la sous-traitance" by funding a major part of the operating costs connected with—

Mr. Speaker: I must inform the Hon. Member that his time has expired. The Hon. Member for Glengarry-Prescott-Russell (Mr. Boudria).

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[English]

THE ADMINISTRATION

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS—CONTENT OF GUIDELINES

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry-Prescott-Russell): Mr. Speaker, in a Canadian Press article of September 18, the Minister of the Environment (Mr. McMillan), the "Peeping Tom" of the House of Commons as he became affectionately know in his previous role as Minister of Tourism, stated:

There may have been some excesses or abuses.

He was referring to the handing out of patronage appointments. According to the Minister, the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) has recognized this and has introduced tough new guidelines, the toughest of any western democracy.

Let us examine the tough new guidelines. First, the review process which the Prime Minister announced applies only to Order in Council appointments. People appointed by contract would still be exempt from scrutiny, like Sam Wakim.

Second, the Prime Minister said that there will no longer be nepotism such as there was in the past—no more appointments of brothers, sisters, sons and so forth. However, the law still permits relatives who have been previously hired to keep their jobs, like Peter Clark, Mr. Speaker.

Next, there are no sanctions in the new guidelines. It should also be remembered that there is a brand new loophole in these so-called tough guidelines. All one has to do to avoid the guidelines altogether is to incorporate as a numbered company. You then consult your favourite Cabinet Minister and he hires on contract. This loophole then provides a tax advantage and bypasses all the new conflict of interest provisions. Some tough guidelines, Mr. Speaker.