

Another right is property rights which have been systematically undermined by the Government. The Hon. Member for Gloucester mentioned the Charter of Rights. In committee I moved an amendment which would have included property rights in the Charter of Rights. Initially I had the agreement of the Liberal Government that it would allow the amendment to go forward. The Hon. Member referred to buckling. Under pressure from the NDP the Government—

Mr. Fisher: And the Provinces.

Mr. Beatty: —did a back flip and buckled and decided to vote against enshrining property rights for Canadians. It attempted to confiscate the property of Canadians in many instances, the back-in provision for Petro-Canada being just one example, and refused to take any action which would have protected property rights in the Constitution. It voted against such a provision.

The Hon. Member now has the temerity to say that because language rights have been broadened during the term of the Prime Minister, somehow Canadians are more free today than they were before the Prime Minister came to office. This is the Prime Minister who jailed Canadians without warrants for their arrest and who operated on the basis of secret information.

Mr. Ouellet: That is untrue.

Mr. Breau: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member talked about the danger of providing assistance to newspapers. I share his concern in that regard. I wonder if he is aware that in an election campaign in New Brunswick last fall, a Tory Premier and now one of his senior ministers indicated that the Government of New Brunswick would provide provincial guarantees and whatever assistance necessary for a French language paper in New Brunswick despite the fact there is a private group with totally private money that wants to start a French language paper there. How does the Hon. Member square that, or does he totally disagree with the policy of Premier Hatfield in that regard?

Mr. Beatty: Mr. Speaker, let me turn the question back to my hon. friend. Apparently he disagrees with Premier Hatfield's position of direct financial assistance to newspapers. When the Minister of State for Multiculturalism introduces legislation in the House, as he says he will before the end of the month, will the Hon. Member have the courage to stand in his place in this House in an area where he has jurisdiction—I do not have jurisdiction in New Brunswick but he has jurisdiction in the federal House—and vote against that dangerous and odious provision?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Ouellet: Mr. Speaker, I find it hard to understand why the Hon. Member spoke to the House for about 20 minutes about a Bill that has yet to be tabled in the House. He cannot

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speak with any measure of certainty about the contents of a Bill that has not even been drafted. He does not know what its provisions will be nor what those provisions will cover. Consequently, the Hon. Member's speech is purely hypothetical, and there is nothing he can state with any degree of certainty. However, he has revealed to us his tormented soul, his fears and, I assume, his personal problems. He feels persecuted, and thinks the Canadian press is persecuted as well. I think it is all in his mind, Mr. Speaker. In fact, I think the whole situation is rather bizarre, and perhaps I may ask him when he last saw his psychiatrist.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): Order, please. It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock this afternoon.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[*Translation*]

SHIPBUILDING

MEETING AT VICTORIAVILLE, P.Q.—AWARDING OF FRIGATE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT—SCAN MARINE AND DAVIE SHIPBUILDING

Mr. Gaston Gourde (Lévis): Madam Speaker, yesterday, the Members for Beauce, Lotbinière, Bellechasse and Frontenac (Messrs. Lapointe, Dubois, Garant and Corriveau) and myself had a meeting with economic partners from the Quebec south shore and the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Lamontagne), who is responsible for this region.

The meeting, held in Victoriaville, was organized as a follow-up to the meeting held last year in Lévis. Twelve briefs were submitted, in which the emphasis was on the disastrous situation in the textile and garment industry, a sector that is being severely affected by imports, for which controls are being sought. A number of economic partners were also concerned about the role of the Federal Business Development Bank and felt that the Bank's role with respect to small- and medium-sized businesses should be redefined.

Three briefs were submitted in which organizations from the Quebec south shore expressed their support for the efforts being made by Scan and Davie to obtain the Canadian Forces frigate contract. There were also lengthy discussions on forest rehabilitation and reforestation. As was the case last year, all briefs will be routed to the decision-making levels of the Canadian Government, and replies will be sent to those who