

We had very poor results . . . Their representative acknowledged the poorness of the results, but only offered us three pails (of chemicals) to compensate for the poor results . . . We told him where to put the three pails.

It is a widespread problem, Mr. Speaker. I call upon the Government to set up a tribunal if the farm chemical manufacturers will not set up a voluntary complaint mechanism themselves that puts farmers on an equal footing with the companies. The industry needs to have a code of conduct for dealing with complaints from farmers who are the consumers. Farmers have been pushed around for far too long by the large multinational chemical companies in Canada.

\* \* \*

### INDUSTRY

#### WINNIPEG—SALE OF VERSATILE FARM EQUIPMENT TO FORD NEW HOLLAND

**Mr. Brian White (Dauphin—Swan River):** Mr. Speaker, the announcement in Winnipeg yesterday of the sale of Versatile Farm Equipment to Ford New Holland is of major national significance. The decision reached by Versatile, and announced by the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion (Mr. Côté), ensures the long-term use of the Winnipeg plant for design and manufacture of the four-wheel drive tractor, and grain swathers, and creates a world mandate for these products. The federal Government is contributing with a repayable loan of \$45.5 million.

Ford New Holland will maintain the Versatile name, identity, colours, and the dealer network. Spare parts will continue to be available and warranties will be honoured. Nine hundred and fifteen people will be at work by the end of 1987, and 1,233 by 1991. Farmers will benefit from the continued competitiveness of the market.

The federal Government was applauded by management and labour for its integral role in the negotiations and, it was acknowledged that without federal government participation the sale would not have taken place.

This announcement proves what can be accomplished when management, labour, and the federal Government work together in the interests of Canada.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

### TOURISM

#### INCREASED FEDERAL TAXES ON GASOLINE—EFFECT ON VISITORS

**Mr. Fernand Robichaud (Westmorland—Kent):** Mr. Speaker, last Tuesday I said in the House that since the Conservatives came to power, taxes on gas had increased 10

S. O. 21

per cent. Mr. Speaker, I'm afraid that is not correct, although it was not my intention to mislead the House.

In fact, federal excise tax has gone up from 1.5 cents per litre to 4.5 cents per litre, an increase of 300 per cent, and federal sales tax, which also affects the price of gas, has gone up from 9 per cent to 12 per cent, an increase of 33 per cent.

This means that federal taxes on gas have increased almost 100 per cent, rising from 4.1 cents per litre to 8.0 cents per litre. It means that Canadians and tourists visiting Canada by car are paying 10 per cent more for gas as a result of the taxes imposed by this Government.

\* \* \*

● (1415)

[English]

### HISTORIC EVENTS

#### ANNIVERSARY OF ARMENIAN REVOLT IN 1921

**Mr. Bill Attewell (Don Valley East):** Mr. Speaker, just three years after the genocide of 1915, surviving Armenians defeated the Turkish army and set up an independent state on May 28, 1918. In 1920 the Treaty of Sevres signed by Turkey and the Allies enlarged the independent Armenia to include most of its historical territory. The treaty, however, was never ratified.

Armenia was independent until December 2, 1920, when Turkey and the Soviet Union invaded and crushed the infant republic and shattered the dream of the Armenians to be a freedom-loving democracy. Sixty-six years ago today, on February 18, 1921, their dream was revived when the Armenians revolted against the communist invaders. Sadly, the revolt lasted only 90 days, but the dream of the Armenians to have the genocide of 1915 recognized and to have an independent Armenian state established will never be crushed.

\* \* \*

### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

#### EXPORTS OF MILITARY GOODS—CALL FOR PUBLIC INQUIRY

**Ms. Pauline Jewett (New Westminster—Coquitlam):** Mr. Speaker, we in the New Democratic Party have often raised questions in this House about the export of Canadian arms and military related goods. We are especially concerned about Canadian exports to military regimes with records of gross human rights violations, and about the role of Canadians in supplying military goods to groups such as the Contras and to countries at war. We are equally concerned about the federal Government's promotion of sales of Canadian military goods to Third World countries which also receive official development assistance.