S. O. 31

The author of the study starts out by announcing that an independent Quebec would have none of the rights and obligations resulting from Canada's membership in several trade agreements with the U.S. including NAFTA, the World Trade Organization and the Auto Pact. A Quebec separated from Canada would have to negotiate access to all these treaties.

• (1410)

This study confirms what our Minister of Finance recently said. An independent Quebec will have to renegotiate all international treaties it is already a part of because of its status as a Canadian province.

The price to be paid for the separatist obsession is much too high and, on October 30, the people of Quebec will say no.

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REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition has suggested that magic powers would help bring Quebecers together again after the referendum.

He told participants in a meeting at a CEGEP: "There is something magical about a yes vote. With a wave of our magic wand, we will stir up a feeling of solidarity among Quebecers. They will no longer be divided into sovereignists and federalists, and I will be confident of negotiating on behalf of all Quebecers". Abracadabra, says the opposition leader.

We are pleased to see that the separatist leader is now taking an interest in what comes after the referendum, when the magic vanishes. Of course, we would like him, with his magic wand, to have the same attitude and preach the same virtues of reconciliation the day after a no victory.

REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN

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Mrs. Christiane Gagnon (Québec, BQ): Mr. Speaker, last week, Senator Jacques Hébert displayed an unspeakable lack of respect for Quebec women, in calling political scientist Josée Legault a "separatist cow".

By heaping such abuse on women with convictions, Mr. Hébert once again shows them that the Liberal Party of Canada and the no side would not be able to meet their expectations in any way after October 30. The number of women in favour of a sovereign Quebec is growing day after day, and rude remarks like these can only strengthen them in their decision.

Mr. Hébert, a member of the Liberal Party of Canada and the government whip in the Senate, must publicly apologize to women in Quebec, and take back his offensive comments.

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[English]

THE SENATE

Miss Deborah Grey (Beaver River, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Reform Party presented its new confederation proposals, 20 measures to modernize and decentralize Canada.

One of the proposed changes is to the Senate of Canada. All future appointments to the Senate would be made by means of elections based on the model of the 1989 Alberta Senate selection process.

Stan Waters made Canadian history twice on this day, October 16, 1989. He was the first elected senator in Canada and he was the first Reform Party member to sit in the Senate. His passing in September 1991 left that seat vacant and the Prime Minister filled it with a typical patronage appointment.

Canadians are tired of this old Liberal lament that we hear time and time again that because the Charlottetown accord failed Canada can never have an elected Senate. I say bunk. It has already happened in Alberta. It can happen in every province in Canada.

I know traditional parties will not want to see the house of patronage disappear. Where would they put the old boys and girls like the last four Liberals appointed to the Senate? I know where they should go. They should be put out to pasture.

The 21st century is coming. Let us democratize and have an elected Senate.

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[Translation]

REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN

Ms. Marlene Catterall (Ottawa West, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, on October 14, the leader of the official opposition said: "Do you think it makes sense that we have so few children in Quebec? We are one of the races of whites with the least children".

What does the colour of the children born in Quebec have to do with the referendum campaign?

First, several members of the yes side suggested that non French speaking Quebec residents would not have the same rights as those of French origin, and now the Bloc leader is raising the issue of race and colour.

Quebecers are not racists. They are well acquainted with the values of tolerance, social harmony and justice, and they will vote no on October 30.