

EDUCATION

INCREASED UNIVERSITY FEES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, last week the President of the University of British Columbia resigned in protest against the anti-education policy of the provincial Government. On April 1, UBC students face an average 10 per cent increase in tuition fees, on top of a 33 per cent increase last year.

The province no longer makes grants available to needy students but forces them to go deeper into debt while they face greater difficulty in getting employment.

Yesterday in its so-called recovery budget the "know nothings" in Victoria cut an additional 5 per cent from university budgets. The Johnson report on federal financing of post-secondary education shows that the provincial Government of British Columbia has reduced its share of post-secondary funding by 25.4 per cent since 1977-1978, making it the worst offender of all of the provinces.

Education can no longer be considered a leisurely option for a small elite who can afford the high fees. Post-secondary education is essential, not only for individuals but also for all of our provinces and our country if we are going to survive in tomorrow's economy. The Secretary of State (Mr. McLean) and the Government must protect the federal investment in post-secondary education in British Columbia. It is not enough to consult—

Mr. Speaker: I regret to advise the Hon. Member that his time has expired.

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[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VISIT BY UNITED STATES PRESIDENT

Mr. Clément M. Côté (Lac-Saint-Jean): Mr. Speaker, I would like to emphasize in the House today the importance for Canadians of this visit by the President of the United States, Mr. Reagan, to Quebec City this weekend.

The President's visit to Quebec City will show our neighbours to the South that since September 4, we now have a truly Canadian Government that includes all ten provinces and all cultures. The fact that the previous Government never succeeded in uniting all regions in this country has caused considerable harm to our economic development.

By treating all regions as part of one nation, the present Government is ensuring that our country will maintain its position on the international scene and promote investment in this country. We are hopeful that this visit will generate positive results for the future and prosperity of our country and all its citizens.

Oral Questions

[English]

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

RETENTION OF CBG GANDER STATION

Mr. George Baker (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, today the CBC will be reversing one of its cuts. In a public statement this afternoon the CBC will state that CBG Gander will remain on the air.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baker: I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that my CRTC intervention will now be withdrawn, and the legal position based on the constitutional arguments will be forgotten. These cases were being prepared by the deputy Mayor of Gander, Mr. Winston Baker, who happens to be my brother, by the way.

On the basis of this reversal, Mr. Speaker, I have a duty to thank the many petitioners, the many hundreds of persons who wrote letters, and to congratulate the Gander Town Council, the mayor, the d'Avignon Players, and the CBC management, present and past, who helped, especially Mr. Cliff Hierlihy. I would like to thank the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Communications, the Hon. Member for Hamilton-Wentworth (Mr. Scott), the Member of Parliament for Edmonton South (Mr. Edwards), and the Minister of Justice (Mr. Crosbie) and his staff—

[Translation]

—and for the Minister, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that CBG has now resumed broadcasting.

● (1115)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANADA-UNITED STATES—ACCESS TO U.S. MARKETS

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome the Prime Minister home from Moscow—

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): —where he attended the state funeral on behalf of the Canadian people. Because of the two-hour meeting he is having with the U.S. President this weekend, I would just say by way of comment that we are grateful that the hostages in Kingston have been released and we hope we can have a report in due course from the Solicitor General on that particular issue.

The press was briefed yesterday, Mr. Speaker, by the Government on the agenda and purpose of the Canadian Government, led by the Prime Minister, in this weekend's two-hour