

The Government is ashamed of this Bill, the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Miss Bégin) is ashamed of it, and that is why they have brought in closure on almost every one of these Bills, to try to control debate, to try to stop this side of the House from identifying the problems they have.

Senior citizens in my riding are experiencing expenses that many people cannot cope with. How they are doing it, I do not know. If there is a major snowfall, it means hiring someone to help senior citizens in many parts of my riding open up their path to get in and out of their homes. It means extra heating costs.

I want to refer for a moment to the point made by the Hon. Member for Athabasca (Mr. Shields), who said that if the Government had to do this, it should do it to the working people. My goodness, he has identified the working people as being the ones the Government should attack, but he did not attack the profits. He did not say the Government should attack the excessive profits the banks are making, or the excessive profits that other people are making. But the Conservatives and the Liberals have an obscene way of dealing with things.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin):** Order. Perhaps the Hon. Member may wish to call it one o'clock.

[Translation]

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

[English]

#### GARRISON DIVERSION

##### RESTORATION OF UNITED STATES FUNDING

**Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg-Assiniboine):** Madam Speaker, the United States Government has just announced that more than \$22 million has been proposed to continue the completion of the Garrison Diversion project. This is in addition to the \$4 million which was overwhelmingly voted against and then re-instated last month.

As reported in *Time* magazine of January 3, 1983, Congressman Silvio Conte stated publicly in Washington that Senator Mark Andrews of North Dakota persuaded the House-Senate Conference Committee to restore the proposed funding for the water diversion project. Congressman Conte further declared that Senators knew they must vote in favour of these moneys for Garrison or risk having Senator Andrews put a halt to their own projects.

S.O. 21

In view of the fact that the best interests of Canada are not being taken into consideration when funding for the Garrison Diversion Project is voted upon, and the recommendations of the International Joint Commission are being totally ignored, it is all too obvious that immediate representation by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacEachen) must be made to the United States Government to resolve this ludicrous situation.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

#### EMPLOYMENT

##### AIR CANADA PROGRAM

**Mr. Claude-André Lachance (Rosemont):** Madam Speaker, I want to call the attention of the House to the anxiety felt by Air Canada employees as a result of the announcement made by Air Canada in the Fall of 1982 that there would be a 10 p. 100 reduction in manpower. Air Canada subsequently submitted to the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers a six-point program designed to avoid the lay-off of 585 employees. Unfortunately, this six-point program was never officially negotiated and between January 3 and the end of March, 359 employees will be laid off in Montreal alone and perhaps even more will lose their jobs in the Spring. Since air local 1751 has stated publicly that it is willing to immediately begin negotiations with Air Canada in an effort to stop its members from being laid-off, the Department of Labour should urge the corporation to immediately discuss with the unions the details of the single six-point proposal it made last Fall.

In conclusion, it should be pointed out that the union has indicated its willingness to accept any management proposal for a work sharing program.

\* \* \*

[English]

#### TRUST COMPANIES

##### CALL FOR PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION INCREASING DEPOSIT INSURANCE LEVELS

**Mr. Don Blenkarn (Mississauga South):** Madam Speaker, the Government brought Bill C-142 before the House as a matter of urgent necessity. Thousands of people have claims against the Crown, Greymac, and Seaway companies, and at this point can only receive \$20,000 toward their claims. The balance of their money is tied up. There is no protection, and they can get nothing. This Bill could be passed through this House in one day and the urgent concerns of these depositors, many of whom are retired, would be alleviated if they were covered up to \$60,000.