

S.O. 21

[English]

PENITENTIARIES**DRUMHELLER INSTITUTION—IMPOSITION OF DUTY ROSTER SYSTEM**

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Madam Speaker, the duty roster system imposed on the staff in the Drumheller Institution breaks the agreement with the staff, and the Solicitor General (Mr. Kaplan) stated on Friday last that the new system would decrease the overtime and that it would save money for the taxpayers. The Solicitor General did not mention why he had unilaterally broken the agreement, nor did he indicate why, at meetings between the staff and regional officers, the Drumheller Institution was not once named for too much overtime—other institutions were, but not Drumheller. Why is the Minister now bringing up overtime as a red herring when it was not a factor at all until now? Under the new system it may well be that overtime will become an issue.

The Minister's statement about wanting to save money for the taxpayer is a laugh; that is, unless this extravagant Government has adopted a new policy. If it now has a policy to save the taxpayers' money, why not eliminate or at least drastically reduce the regional office? Last year this duplicating unnecessary office cost the taxpayers \$5,902,485. A warden worth his salt should be capable, and able to manage his institution, and one headquarter, the one in Ottawa, should be enough.

The truth of the matter is that the squad system and the old rotation were working to the satisfaction of the Drumheller Institution. The Minister can make all the excuses he likes, but each excuse he gives is reducing his credibility among his own staff, not only in Drumheller but throughout Canada.

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[Translation]

FISHERIES**PROPOSED JOINT COMPENSATION PROGRAM FOR EEL FISHERMEN**

Mr. Gaston Gourde (Lévis): Madam Speaker, eel fishermen in Quebec are now faced with bankruptcy. Hon. Members are certainly aware that in early 1982, our eel exports to Germany were banned because they contained Mirex, an insecticide dumped in Lake Ontario and which is now spreading into the St. Lawrence River. The Hooker Chemicals Company, from Niagara Falls, has been reportedly identified as the source of contamination. The Federal Republic of Germany, which until then had been our best customer, will no longer accept our eel. The best officials of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans could do under these circumstances was to suggest suing the American firm. Any settlement, however, which would come only after years and years of legal proceedings would be meaningless to fishermen long gone bankrupt.

We believe that the Government of Canada has some responsibility with regard to catches prior February 4, 1982. We believe also there is a joint responsibility of the Government of Canada and the Government of Quebec with regard to catches after that date. As a matter of fact, in spite of the current ban imposed on these exports, the Quebec Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foodstuffs still continues to issue licences to eel fishermen. An adequate joint compensation program, therefore, should be set up immediately to compensate all fishermen and all exporters, especially Les Pêcheries Gingras, in Saint-Nicolas.

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[English]

NATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAM**EFFECT ON OIL PRODUCTION**

Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre): Madam Speaker, the wreckage caused by Canada's National Energy Program has been well documented and is well known to Canadians from coast to coast. This ill conceived program caused damage not just to oil and gas companies or those areas most dependent upon the activity of these companies for employment, but to virtually every other sector and area of Canada.

At present the oil and gas industry is operating at a small fraction of its previous level and of its potential. Thousands of people have been laid off. Billions of dollars of spending has been postponed and cancelled. Companies from coast to coast which traditionally supplied this industry are suffering similar problems.

Perhaps one could partially forgive the injury inflicted on the oil and gas industry by the federal Government if there were some people or some sectors of Canadian society that benefited. But nobody has, not the consumer, whose potential benefits were taxed away, not employees in the energy sector or sectors which supply the energy industry whose jobs have disappeared, and not even governments, since the revenues they sought to gain have diminished significantly because money losing enterprises do not pay taxes, nor do the unemployed.

There are many problems caused by the National Energy Program that need to be rectified, but perhaps the one which is most aggravating and frustrating is the problem of Canada's shut-in oil capacity. In April there are over 200,000 barrels a day of production shut in and, while that will go down in May, for the first six months of 1984 it is expected that the average will be well over 100,000 barrels a day. That means that well over \$3 million a day of revenue which would be available for the federal Government, provincial Governments and the industry, will not be there.

Madam Speaker: Order.