

to the promised achievement of a rate of expenditure of 2.5 per cent of GNP for scientific research and development, nor have promises with respect to education and training been met. In fact, real expenditures by the Government for research, whether basic or industrial, have in real terms actually decreased.

Transfer payments for post-secondary education have been cut. Accessibility to colleges and universities has decreased. Training in community colleges has decreased. Real support for student summer employment has been cut back and support for industrial research and development has gone no farther than it was three years ago.

It is typical that the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) recently and with ostentation announced \$1.3 billion in new money spread over five years for research and development with the vaguest possible indication of how the money would be spent. Now we learn from the PMO that no specific decisions have yet been made.

I say to the Prime Minister that it is time for real commitment to the kind of support post-secondary education must have to stop its decay. It is time to state clearly his your Government's commitment to a rate of expenditure of 2.5 per cent of GNP for research and development by 1995. Only that will lift us beyond the confusion of policy heretofore obscured by forums and inflated rhetoric.

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● (1410)

PENSIONS

PROTECTION AGAINST INFLATION

Mr. W. Paul McCrossan (York-Scarborough): Mr. Speaker, last Thursday the Ontario Task Force on Inflation Protection for Employee Pension Plans released its recommendations with respect to pension indexing and surplus withdrawal regulations. The task force recommends that inflation protection be required using a minimum standard of 75 per cent of the increase in the cost of living minus 1 per cent. This was particularly pleasing for me since I developed this formula for the federal Government and it is already embedded in the federal Pension Benefits Standards Act.

The task force also recommends that employers be prohibited from withdrawing surpluses from pension plans unless they contractually index all pensions, past and future, to the minimum indexing standard, also as I suggested.

Hopefully both the Ontario Government and the federal Government will move quickly on these recommendations to co-ordinate their policies to ensure that Canadian workers receive appropriate inflation protection for their pension plans.

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ROBERT BURNS DAY

CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill): Mr. Speaker, today is Robert Burns Day, and all over the world Scotland's immortal bard is being remembered, by Scots and non-Scots alike. Scots remember him for many things, his poems and songs in particular, but many also remember him as one who eloquently lamented the power which Scotland's more densely populated southern neighbour came to have over Scotland's destiny as the political and economic powers-that-be in the south co-opted the Scottish ruling class and enlisted it in the course of integration. Those of us who are Canadians of Scottish heritage are now to be placed in double jeopardy by the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Blaikie: Canada, like Scotland, is to be given away without a fight, for American gold, instead of English gold as Burns put it. The war of 1812 was won, only to be lost in the negotiations of 1987. Or, as Burns put it:

What force or guile could not subdue,

Thro' many warlike ages,

Is wrought now by a coward few,

For hireling traitor's wages.

The English steel we could disdain,

Secure in valour's station;

But English gold has been our bane—

Such a parcel of rogues in a nation!

But pith and power, till my last hour,

I'll mak this declaration;

We're bought and sold for English gold—

Such a parcel of rogues in a nation!

Mr. Speaker: Burns also said:

O wad some Power the giftie gie us,

To see oursels as ithers see us!

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

TAMIL REFUGEE CLAIMANT—ALLEGATION CONTAINED IN NEWSPAPER REPORT

Mr. Alan Redway (York East): What is going on, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Blaikie: Another Englishman.

Mr. Redway: And I do not mean Robert Burns. First it is the Canadian Security Intelligence Service goofing up the granting of landed immigrant status to a terrorist. Now *The*