

*S.O. 21*

No other Canadian industry is required to pay such a surcharge on energy used as a factor in the production of goods and services. Moreover, Canadian shipowners and the federal Government itself have incurred significant extra overhead in, respectively paying and administering this charge. The revenue arising from the charge since its introduction, \$6.1 million in 1981 and a mere \$2.5 million in 1982, can hardly justify these costs or the demonstrable erosion of the domestic carriers' competitive position.

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• (1410)

**POLITICAL PARTIES****PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT AND PATRONAGE**

**Mr. Roger Simmons (Burin-St. George's):** Madam Speaker, those ever loving Tories have spent the past week or two attacking the Government for patronage. They should know all about patronage. For starters, listen to the immortal words of the Hon. Member for Joliette (Mr. La Salle), the entire Quebec wing of the Tory Party. In 1979 the Montreal *Gazette* reported him as saying that Quebec Conservative lawyers, engineers, consultants, contractors, architects and accountants would even get preferential treatment under the administration of which he was a part.

In the same period when he was Minister of Supply and Services, *The Globe and Mail* quoted him as saying that loyal Party backers in Quebec could look forward to being on the receiving end of Government work and service contracts.

How about the Hon. Member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) the old kneecapper, old knielcapsen himself? Toward the end of August *The Globe and Mail* reported that Senator Flynn, in his capacity as Justice Minister, sought the Hon. Member's recommendation on the appointment of a special prosecutor in a legal case. The Hon. Member for Yukon said that he was being consulted in his role as Minister responsible for patronage in the Yukon.

What standards of morality, what ethical guidelines—

**Madam Speaker:** Order, order.

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**METRIC CONVERSION****USE IN SPECIFICATIONS FOR TENDERS**

**Mr. Girve Fretz (Erie):** Madam Speaker, the metric program will go down in history as one of the most expensive, least loved, most confusing and least consistent ever put together. Time and time again I have received letters from constituents pointing out the inconsistencies in the enforcement of metric rules.

One of my constituents was recently in receipt of an invitation to quote from the Department of Supply and Services. On this document there were several interesting examples of metric confusion.

In the specifications for a boat required by the Department of Supply and Services it was mentioned that the cruising speed for the vessel should be a minimum of 24 miles per hour. In the same paragraph it was stated that the boat would be used within a 48 kilometre range of Parry Sound. Fuel consumption was stated in imperial measurement, as was weight, beam, and size of the cabin. Yet the length of the boat was to be 5.6 metres.

When the Government turns out tenders like this, how can it be that it is considering prosecuting merchants selling floor coverings in imperial units? What gives it the right to prosecute people who sell gasoline by the gallon? Perhaps the Minister should check out the situation in his own backyard before intervening in the affairs of ordinary Canadians who are, after all, only giving their customers a freedom of choice and the freedom to measure.

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**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****EL SALVADOR—PROVISION OF MILITARY AID BY UNITED STATES**

**Mr. Bob Ogle (Saskatoon East):** Madam Speaker, it is almost three years since the Archbishop of San Salvador, His Grace, Oscar Romero, was murdered in a church in that city. Since that time that little country has suffered a great deal more violence from both sides, in a war that continues. In March a group of the subcommittee on Latin America protested against the elections that were taking place at that time. In the month of December several other Members of Parliament and myself visited the present Archbishop who again asked for negotiations to seek dialogue.

Yesterday it was announced that Caspar Weinberger, the Secretary of Defence in the United States, is attempting to find \$60 million more to put into the war in El Salvador. I believe that this is a horrendous thing and I would ask the Government of Canada to protest it in every way possible. The U.S. Secretary of Defence has said that if he cannot get it through the ordinary means of Congress he will go to a special fund to provide military assistance to foreign countries. Some of the countries that have received that special assistance are Vietnam, Cambodia, and El Salvador in 1981.

The Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, will visit that country this coming week. I can only hope that the situation will be such that peace can be found, that negotiations will take place, and that war will not continue.