

S.O. 21

Thanks to the outstanding performance of executive director Robert C. Bryce and the active participation of Quebec's Department of Energy and Resources, the employees are proud to work for Selbaie Mines and play a leading role in the mining industry of Abitibi-Témiscamingue and Canada.

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ACID RAIN

QUEBEC MAPLE TREES—NEED FOR GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill): Over the past five years, Mr. Speaker, Quebec maple syrup producers have tapped 2 million fewer trees as a result of the acid rain phenomenon, a loss estimated at a minimum of \$87 million by the Agricultural Producers' Union. In addition, if this serious situation does not improve, the Quebec maple syrup industry is expected to disappear within five years.

Mr. Speaker, owing to the nearly slavish respect of the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) for President Reagan, this Government is destroying the source of income of 10,000 men and women in Quebec.

● (1405)

[English]

But acid rain not only threatens Quebec's maple syrup industry, it also threatens one of our national symbols. If arguments of reason and common sense cannot convince the Government of the urgency of the problem, we can only hope that the evocative image of a withered and colourless maple leaf, and empty maple syrup bottles, will have the power to stir the Government to action.

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ROYAL CANADIAN MINT

REOPENING OF OTTAWA FACILITIES

Mr. Don Ravis (Saskatoon East): Mr. Speaker, I want to draw the attention of Members to an event occurring today that is of interest and importance to all Canadians.

Today the Royal Canadian Mint is officially reopening its historic facilities at 320 Sussex Drive here in Ottawa. These renovated facilities will provide a renewed impetus for the Mint's future success in the highly competitive minting industry.

As members may know, the Mint's international marketing achievements were recently recognized when it won the 1986 Canada Export Award. This achievement speaks both to the technical expertise which resides in the Mint, and also to the excellence displayed in marketing this expertise all over the world.

Success stories like the Mint demonstrate how we Canadians can meet international challenges and compete successfully on a world-wide scale. I ask Hon. Members to join with me in congratulating the staff of the Mint and wishing it the best success in the future.

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CANADA POST CORPORATION

CANCELLATION OF MEETING BY MINISTER

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, the Minister responsible for Canada Post has acted in a cowardly and irresponsible manner by cancelling at the last minute a meeting scheduled between himself and a group known as "Citizens United for Equitable Postal Service".

Representatives from this organization had made all their plans to travel to Ottawa from various communities in the country. Airline tickets were bought and other expenses had been incurred. The alleged reason for the cancellation of the meeting that was scheduled for November 18 is that the Minister is speaking in Vancouver two days later, on November 20.

I have news for the Minister. Holiday week was last week and nobody requires three days in 1986 to get to Vancouver, even if one is a Tory and a little slow at moving about.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The Hon. Member for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell (Mr. Boudria) used one word in his statement which seems to the Chair to be unparliamentary. The word is "cowardly". I wonder if the Hon. Member would please the House by withdrawing it.

Mr. Boudria: Certainly, Mr. Speaker.

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FASHION ACCESS CANADA

NEW NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION WELCOMED

Mrs. Lise Bourgault (Argenteuil—Papineau): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise before the House today to encourage my fellow Members to support an exciting new national non-profit organization that will assist young Canadians make realistic and informed decisions as they seek education and career opportunities in the Canadian fashion industry. Fashion Access Canada-Entree Mode Canada, will publish a career guide next year. In 1989 it will convene a national symposium, to be followed by the creation of a fashion access resource and development centre.

This dynamic group has organized a phenomenal fashion presentation, with contributions from a stellar group of the