

*S. O. 21*

Mr. Harry Brigden of Ear Falls says that times are difficult in the forest industry, especially for small logging contractors. He states that the trade deal "would make matters worse".

Mr. Lawrence De Gagne, a small businessman from the Fort Frances area, writes, "I have spoken with many business people and some general citizens about free trade. I have yet to hear one of these people agree with it". He adds, "I wonder where Mr. Bulloch got the news that small businessmen want free trade".

A man from Balmertown writes about the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney), "I think he is selling us out for big business interests—typical Conservatives".

Mr. Roger Woods of Sioux Lookout states that he has doubts about the credibility of the Government to even negotiate a fair deal.

Time does not permit me, Mr. Speaker, to share the concerns of other northerners right now, but the message I am getting is that this trade deal is a bad deal and that it belongs in the same scrap heap as the Tories' attempts to deindex seniors' pensions when they first got into office.

\* \* \*

#### NATIONAL FILM BOARD

DISCREDITING REPUTATION OF THE LATE BILLY BISHOP, V.C.

**Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound—Muskoka):** Mr. Speaker, over the past three or four years there has been an increasing outcry of protest over the release of a National Film Board film, "The Kid Who Couldn't Miss".

More recently it has been discovered that the director of the film, Mr. Paul Cowan, has taken deliberate liberties with the truth in that film in order to discredit Billy Bishop, the holder of the Victoria Cross. Even after Mr. Cowan's fraud came to light, his employers at the National Film Board refused to remove the film from circulation.

● (1410)

I call upon the Minister of Communications (Miss MacDonald) to launch an inquiry into why such a film was made, despite the overwhelming evidence to the contrary that its theme was erroneous, and why, when the truth behind the director's intent became known, the National Film Board did not step in immediately—indeed, it still has not done so—and retrieve this monstrous waste of taxpayers' money.

#### AGRICULTURE

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND POTATOES—INCREASED INSPECTION FEES

**Mr. George Henderson (Egmont):** Mr. Speaker, the potato farmers in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick are fed up with the Government.

As of today, Agriculture Canada is doubling the inspection fees to 6 cents a hundredweight at shipping points. We realize that potatoes must be inspected before they can be shipped out of a province, but our P.E.I. producers must export about 60 per cent of their tablestock potatoes whereas Ontario and Quebec growers sell nearly all of their potatoes in their own provinces.

The doubling of these inspection fees blatantly discriminates against our P.E.I. farmers. To make matters even worse, the Government has also increased the inspection fees at the destination points by 2 cents to 12 cents a hundredweight.

Our farmers have been hard hit in recent years and the current tablestock prices are still below the cost of production. The higher inspection fees will be a terrible burden for our farmers. Why does the federal Government treat our potato growers with utter contempt? I urge the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Wise) and the Government to reverse this decision immediately.

\* \* \*

#### NATIONAL FILM BOARD

LEGAL FEES INCURRED BY WAR AMPUTATIONS OF CANADA

**Mr. Stan Graham (Kootenay East—Revelstoke):** Mr. Speaker, in November, 1986, the War Amputations of Canada launched an action in the Supreme Court of Ontario requesting an injunction against the distribution of "The Kid Who Couldn't Miss", a National Film Board film. The National Film Board declined to defend the film and instead announced it would delay the action on procedural grounds.

I call upon the Minister of Communications (Miss MacDonald) to invoke Section 21 of the National Film Act and request from the NFB an accounting of its decision to try to pass on to the War Amputations of Canada \$10,000 in legal fees for an action which never occurred. I ask the Minister to prevent a gross travesty of justice perpetrated by the National Film Board of Canada.