

S.O. 21

creating jobs in the long term. One example is the number of hydro agreements that are being negotiated at the present time which will create thousands of long-term jobs with training opportunities for—

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member's time has expired.

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AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY**NEW INVESTMENT IN GENERAL MOTORS PLANT AT ST. CATHARINES**

Mr. Joe Reid (St. Catharines): Mr. Speaker, only four years ago many reputable industrial observers were preaching the permanent decline of the North American automobile industry.

Under the protection of quotas on imports of Japanese motor vehicles, the North American automobile industry obtained a breathing space in time within which it could modernize and introduce high technological improvements into its manufacturing operations.

The announcement made yesterday by General Motors to invest a further \$255 million in its engine plant in St. Catharines indicates a vigorous, competitive approach by the industry itself, and a determination that the products manufactured by General Motors will be highly world competitive both in quality and efficiency.

With the introduction of new mechanized moulding systems and computerized sensors, General Motors can achieve lower per unit production costs. In doing so General Motors will maintain a stability of employment in our local community where the matter of jobs is the top priority and concern. General Motors will give confidence to other Canadian manufacturers in this highly technical and competitive world, and Canadians generally will receive the beneficial fruits of the G.M. example.

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MINES AND MINING**NEED FOR FULLY TRAINED RESCUE TEAMS**

Mr. Dave Nickerson (Western Arctic): Mr. Speaker, tribute ought to be paid to those thousands of Canadians right across the nation who volunteer their time and effort in training for mine rescue work. Despite precautions, mine disasters can always happen and, when they do, it is essential that fully trained mine rescue teams be available so that loss of life can be minimized.

Competition between teams in regional, provincial, territorial and national events not only adds interest to the training but hones the teams into higher degrees of preparedness and effectiveness. For this reason competitive events should be encouraged. But it is saddening to learn that, for the second year in a row, the Dominion Mine Rescue Competitions

scheduled to have been held in Yellowknife have been cancelled. In expressing our appreciation for all those involved in mine rescue work let us record our dismay that the Dominion competitions will not be held this year, and our hope that sufficient funds can be found to enable the event to be held in 1985.

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[Translation]

INDIAN AFFAIRS**UNANIMOUS ADOPTION OF BILL C-46 SUGGESTED**

Mr. André Maltais (Manicouagan): Mr. Speaker, this afternoon the House will be asked to consider a very important Bill concerning the Naskapi and the Cree. After the James Bay Agreement, Bill C-46 proposes to give practically complete autonomy to the various reserves. It confirms the responsibility of the Cree and Naskapi for governing their territory, for the organization of their band councils and for the by-laws that will be enforced directly by the local government authority.

Mr. Speaker, I should be delighted if the House could adopt this Bill unanimously this afternoon, especially since it would mean a step forward for the Cree and Naskapi, who have shown that they appreciate the values of native tradition. I think this Bill will give all native peoples in Canada more confidence and encourage them to show white people they are able to govern themselves.

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● (1115)

[English]

SOCIAL AFFAIRS**CUTBACKS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIAL SERVICES—TRIBUTE TO WORK OF VANCOUVER CRISIS CENTRE**

Mr. Svend Robinson (Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, in these harsh economic times, social services are particularly hard pressed to meet the demands placed upon them, particularly in the Province of British Columbia. In that province there have been savage cutbacks in health care, education, child care, child abuse teams, services to young people, the elderly, and the handicapped. Unemployment is at record levels, particularly among young people. With broken families, record levels of single parent families, and cutbacks in welfare, social service agencies are particularly hard taxed.

One volunteer agency has been serving the Greater Vancouver community for 15 years today, with tremendous dedication and energy, that is, the Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention Centre of Greater Vancouver. It has provided hope to the hopeless and, I venture to say, has saved many lives. Today, on the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of that Centre, I want to commend the thousands of volunteers who have been