

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

CAMPAIGN TO CLEAN UP HAZARDOUS WASTE SITES

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound—Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, Canadians across Canada are pleased to know that the Government is committed to protecting the environment.

The Minister of the Environment (Mr. Bouchard) in this House, along with his provincial counterparts, has established a five-year fund to clean up hazardous waste sites in Canada. Some \$250 million will be available to cover the cost of cleaning up sites, the owners of which are not known. In cases where owners can be found, they will be forced to pay the clean-up costs.

I am of course very pleased with this new development in the fight against dangerous material, whether it be on the ground or in the air. Acid rain has been one of my causes throughout my career in the House.

The diplomacy the Minister has demonstrated in getting the provincial Ministers to agree has given me hope that we will soon have more agreements that are honest attempts at solving these very difficult problems.

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AGRICULTURE

EFFECT OF FREE TRADE AGREEMENT ON FARMERS

Mr. Bob Speller (Haldimand—Norfolk): Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to the attention of the Deputy Prime Minister and part-time Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Mazankowski) an article that was in *The Toronto Star* a few days ago saying that firms are telling staff to shape up or lose jobs to free trade. The food conglomerate H. J. Heinz Company of Canada has said that it will find it necessary to move to the United States. In fact, a person from Nabisco Brands Limited, Ray Verdon, has said that he advised firms to cut costs, for example, by using potential U.S. sources as low-cost suppliers.

I stand today to call on the Deputy Prime Minister to do the right thing, to bring in programs to help farmers who are adversely affected by free trade.

Oral Questions

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

CHANGES TO SYSTEM—EFFECT ON NEWFOUNDLAND AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Employment and Immigration I will put my question to the Prime Minister. I have listened carefully, as have Hon. Members of the House, to all of the Minister's answers.

The Minister tells us that a cut of \$800 million in direct benefits going to the unemployed is not really a cut.

She tells us that the training programs she has announced will not come into effect for four years, according to her paper, but somehow magically they will be in full effect next year.

She tells us that money spent on training people with jobs is actually training people without jobs.

Let me ask the Prime Minister about another one of the Minister's far-fetched statements. How can the Minister for International Trade, in his press release of April 11, tell the people of Newfoundland that they will receive \$30 million less under the new program while the Minister for Employment and Immigration has said repeatedly in this House that the people of Newfoundland will receive \$15 million more under the program?

Will the Prime Minister at the same time be good enough to tell us, since the Minister has been so precise—erroneously—about the people of Newfoundland, how much the people of British Columbia will receive next year? She gave us a precise figure for Newfoundland. Perhaps the Prime Minister can give us a precise figure for British Columbia.

[Translation]

Hon. Monique Vézina (Minister of State (Employment and Immigration) and Minister of State (Seniors)): Mr. Speaker, the reform we announced last week is primarily aimed at getting Canadians to work. We want Canadians to have jobs. We are giving them the kind of training they need to respond to new needs. Since 1984, training has been the cornerstone of our employment strategy, and it works: 1.15 million jobs have been created since 1984!