

S.O. 21

Nearly 20,000 jobs in Quebec are directly dependent on this industry, and 60 per cent of our exports are being threatened in this way.

In the long run, this tariff will mean the loss of thousands of jobs and lead to many sawmills in Quebec shutting down.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to repeat the appeal made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) for calm and organizing our defences, which must be done by mobilizing all intervenors, starting with the employers, the unions and the federal and provincial governments.

That is how we won in 1983, and it is the only way we will be able to win again in 1986. If the same criteria apply to this study, I think there is no doubt that the same conclusion will be reached, namely that our industry is not competing unfairly with the industry in the U.S.

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[English]

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

CANCELLATION OF ATTENDANCE AT OPENING OF EXPO 86

Mr. Alan Redway (York East): Mr. Speaker, the allegations made by the President of the Liberal Party are completely untrue.

The Governor General's participation in the activities surrounding the opening of Expo and in the other official activities on the West Coast had been planned for some time. Unfortunately the Governor General, who we all know works very hard at her duties, developed pleurisy, and her entire trip had to be cancelled.

It is incorrect and discourteous to allege that the Governor General developed "diplomatic flu" for partisan political purposes.

We challenge the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner) to repudiate untrue allegations of the Liberal Party President and make a full apology to the Governor General.

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[Translation]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

RECOMMENDATION THAT SENTENCES FOR REPEATED ASSAULTS BE SERVED CONSECUTIVELY

Mrs. Lucie Pépin (Outremont): Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a petition bearing 2,800 signatures which has been presented to the Minister of Justice (Mr. Crosbie) and to his Quebec counterpart, Mr. Marx. The

petition is from *Trois-Rivières* and deserves the attention of this House.

It reads as follows: "We the undersigned believe that sexual assault is a serious crime, of which women and children are the main victims. Recently, in the *Trois-Rivières* area, a number of so-called exemplary sentences were handed down. These sentences were supposed to be a serious warning to possible offenders.

For sexually assaulting a 13-year-old-girl, the five aggressors were sentenced to prison terms of, respectively, two years, two years, 10 months, 10 months and 8 months. For sexually assaulting three women, the aggressor was sentenced to a total of three years, since traditionally, prison terms imposed for three crimes are served concurrently.

The women signing this petition state that sentences like the ones mentioned above are not exemplary and do not reflect the seriousness of the crime. They therefore ask that prison terms for repeated assault be served consecutively and concurrently.

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TRADE

FREE TRADE—LIBERALS' POSITION

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, the Liberals keep saying that freer trade with the United States is in the interest of Canadians.

However, they remain quite silent whenever they are expected to take a position on specific questions such as the thrust of the negotiations.

This morning's issue of *The Citizen* reports that, last weekend in the Atlantic region, their National President Iona Campagnolo kept contradicting herself.

The few Party delegates who got together over the weekend were unable to achieve a consensus respecting free trade, just like the Liberal Party.

As for the Hon. Member for Laval (Mr. Garneau), the so-called Party expert in international trade, he keeps repeating that free trade will harm the 130,000 Quebecers who might lose their jobs.

This is a serious accusation against Quebec entrepreneurs and businessmen who, allegedly, would be unable to cope with the new conditions on international markets.

When it comes to freer trade with the United States, the Liberals are like chickens with their heads cut off—running around in circles before keeling over.

● (1410)

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Sixty seconds.