

S. O. 31

Annually, the town's authorities organize a special evening to thank volunteers who work day in day out to make life easier for fellow members of their community, of all ages.

These people who donate their time and skills and certainly do not advertise the fact, are invited to a special evening where they are offered entertainment, have a chance to talk to other volunteers and are given public recognition for their dedicated work.

I believe this is a wonderful example of how we can give merit when merit is due.

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[English]

LIBERAL LEADERSHIP

Mr. Peter L. McCreath (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, the man who would be king, the man who intends to assume the mantle of national leadership this weekend, has gone underground on the greatest national issue of the day.

His leadership rival, the member for LaSalle—Émard said: "One could not ask for a better demonstration of his failure to exercise leadership." Mr. Speaker, I agree. This is a total failure of leadership. The man has nothing to say to his Liberal colleagues in Newfoundland and Manitoba.

Mr. Chrétien, if you are to be a leader, it is time to show leadership. Do you support the Meech Lake Accord? Yes or no?

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TRANSPORT

Hon. Roger C. Simmons (Burin—St. George's): Mr. Speaker, you will recall that some months ago the Minister of Transport commissioned a study into the implications of a year round ferry service for Argentina.

Since the release of that study in March, the minister has been looking at his options. In the meantime, private shippers in just about every municipality in southwestern Newfoundland including Port aux Basques, Stephenville and the city of Corner Brook have opposed the move toward year round service, and with very good reason.

It is widely felt in Newfoundland that even a slight variation from the existing system would lead to major disruptions and major problems regarding transportation

and that the idea of a year round service to Argentina should be scrapped altogether.

• (1410)

I call upon the minister to let his decision be known and to not displace the obligation under the terms of Confederation, which places Port aux Basques as the main point of entry.

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CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Mr. Lee Clark (Brandon—Souris): Mr. Speaker, the agricultural voice of CBC Radio has retired.

On behalf of thousands of farmers who are faithful listeners to the CBC's farm broadcast, I would like to thank George Price for the valuable service that he provided for so many years. His informative, succinct reports and interviews will be missed, as will his presence at national and regional agricultural conferences, at which he was regarded both as a celebrity and an institution.

In wishing George Price well in his retirement, I would also like to urge CBC Radio to appoint a full time successor. Although the CBC as a Crown corporation should carefully regulate its expenditures just as government departments must do, the information which George Price provided was too important for his position to go unfilled. Canadian farmers need the daily agricultural reports which George Price so faithfully provided.

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THE ECONOMY

Mr. Lyle Dean MacWilliam (Okanagan—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance is blaming Canadian workers for causing inflation, and his latest scapegoat has been women. His targets have included teachers, nurses and social workers, jobs that are traditionally female oriented. Yet, since this government came to power, real wages have fallen almost 4 per cent while salary increases for fat cat executives of Canada's Crown corporations have been nothing short of unconscionable.

Last year, the government allowed salary increases of \$40,000 to \$84,000 for the top brass of CN. These are increases that are more than the average Canadian worker earns in a year. Why is the minister attacking reasonable wage settlements for ordinary workers, while remaining silent on these pork barrel payouts to senior government executives? Why does he not wake up and smell the coffee? The minister should stop blaming