

S.O. 21

For the mining industry, tax benefits that are essential to investment have been maintained. For the agricultural sector, a financing plan is being introduced that takes into account the income volatility in this sector. Finally, as a result of the tax incentives in this Budget, the small business sector, which plays such an important role in creating jobs, will benefit from increased investment by Canadians and see its tax rate drop from 15 to 13 per cent.

Another factor of particular relevance is that the tax on gas was not increased, a fact much appreciated in remote areas.

Mr. Speaker, that is the kind of reception this Budget received from the regions, which found it to be a balanced and responsible Budget.

* * *

[English]

EMPLOYMENT**PROGRAM FOR OLDER WORKER ADJUSTMENT**

Mrs. Pauline Browes (Scarborough Centre): Mr. Speaker, unemployment tragically affects the lives of far too many Canadians each and every year. Those hit hardest by work shortages are men and women over the age of 40 who have families and loved ones to care for. Fortunately, thanks to the progressive policies of the Government, these people have new hope.

Together with promoting a healthy economy that led to the creation of over 40,000 jobs for older workers last year, the Government announced in last week's Budget a new, innovative program to help older unemployed people find work. The \$125 million Program for Older Worker Adjustment will provide immediate assistance to older Canadians who find themselves out of work because of plant closures and lay-offs. The Program for Older Worker Adjustment is further evidence of the Government's commitment to providing caring and responsive social assistance to those who need it most.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Sixty seconds.

* * *

● (1410)

AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY**NEED FOR LARGER WINDSHIELD WASHER RESERVOIR CAPACITY**

Hon. Donald J. Johnston (Saint-Henri-Westmount): Mr. Speaker, as far as I know, no Canadian automobile manufacturer offers a windshield washer reservoir of capacity equal to our winter's combination of slush and salt. The present reservoirs seem designed for winter somewhere between Atlanta and Sacramento. Why can't Canadian manufacturers offer a large reservoir, equipped with a gauge as an option? In normal snowy conditions one cannot drive from Toronto to Montreal without filling up the reservoir at least once.

As well, why does the washer fluid sold in Canada, and marked on the container "good to 40 degrees below zero", freeze into an impenetrable glaze on a cold windshield?

The Canadian consumer is paying up to \$3 for a four-litre container of this stuff and it is sometimes even more expensive than even gasoline, if that is possible. Yet it is largely coloured water. How many accidents have been caused by our automobiles being equipped for someone else's winters? Why can't we have standards from the Department of Transport or—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Sixty seconds.

* * *

CULTURAL AFFAIRS**FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL MINISTER'S MEETING**

Ms. Lynn McDonald (Broadview-Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Communications (Mr. Masse) and provincial Ministers of Culture are meeting today and tomorrow in Montreal on a number of critical questions for Canadian cultural independence. Film production and distribution, and publishing, are the most urgent matters and both require federal-provincial co-operation if Canada is to have a mature and truly distinctive culture.

The provincial Ministers have grudges that Telefilm Canada money is not easily available outside Montreal and Toronto, and access must be assured. However, no amount of increased production of Canadian films will be worth the trouble if Canadians do not get a chance to see them, and distribution is a provincial matter.

I urge the provincial Ministers to act promptly and vigorously on the recommendations of the task force on film distribution. The provincial Departments of Education have a strategic role to play through their purchasing policies as well. They must say no to retreads posing as Canadian content with a few Canadian pages slapped on. The publishers must support real Canadian content, with authors producing their work here. Again I call on the provincial Ministers to be energetic—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Sixty seconds.

* * *

[Translation]

CANADA POST CORPORATION**POSSIBILITY OF STRIKE**

Mrs. Lise Bourgault (Argenteuil-Papineau): Mr. Speaker, once again Canadian men and women are being threatened by a strike at Canada Post. The Letter Carriers Union says it has been without a contract for two months and has threatened to go off the job if no agreement is reached on wage conditions and job security.