

All these children, who are between 6 and 12 years old, heard from their teachers about the importance of the United Nations Organization and its difficult mission in the world today.

Mr. Speaker, the message, which was handed to me by Magalie Brière on behalf and in the presence of all the pupils of her school, is as follows:

We address this letter to you, the leaders of our country, to express our sadness and our concern about peace in this world. We may be very young, but we believe that everyone has the right to live, and to live an increasingly better life. We want peace and brotherhood to be present everywhere in this world. We are sincere in making this gesture and we believe it is an important one. We firmly believe in your desire and commitment to take concrete action so that our desire for peace will become a reality throughout the world. We ask you to continue to encourage every effort being made in the pursuit of this ideal.

Signed: We, the boys and girls of Trefflé-Gauthier School, October 24, 1985. Mr. Speaker, this document was handed to me before the assembled pupils of this school, in a very original way, because the message was published in a—

Mr. Speaker: I regret to inform the Hon. Member that his time has expired.

\* \* \*

[English]

#### MINES AND MINING

##### CYPRUS ANVIL MINE—IMPACT OF REOPENING ON NORTHERN NEW BRUNSWICK

Mr. Albert Girard (Restigouche): Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak today about the decision to reopen the Cyprus Anvil Mine. We in northern New Brunswick are asking the Government to reconsider that decision. There are presently 200,000 metric tonnes of over-produced zinc in the world, and this is after a 10 per cent cut by Inco and Noranda, plus the closure of several Canadian mines.

The most recent annual Mines Department market forecast predicted that this over-capacity in zinc production would continue at least until the end of the decade and prices will stay depressed. It said the industry would have to keep supply and demand in tight balance in order to be competitive. The estimated 300,000 metric tonnes which will be produced by the Cyprus Anvil Mine will create havoc in an already saturated market.

There are 2,300 people employed in the zinc-lead industry in northern New Brunswick. The reopening of the Cyprus Anvil Mine will only cause job losses in an area which is already recognized as a very economically depressed area of Canada. The economic impact of any loss of jobs would be devastating to a region which already has a 30 per cent unemployment rate.

I realize that the Yukon has a very high unemployment rate as well, but I think it would be a more well received decision to delay the reopening of the Cyprus Anvil Mine until the zinc market improves.

#### Oral Questions

[Translation]

#### THE FAMILY

##### SOCIAL MEASURES—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal-Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I would like to remind the Members of this House, and especially the Conservative Members, of commitments made by the Right Hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) and his Government to our Canadian families.

First of all, on November 5, and I quote: "My Government has as a high priority measures to support and strengthen the Canadian family, which is the cornerstone of our society."

On November 15, the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Epp) said: "It is my role as Minister of National Health and Welfare to put forward signals and initiatives which will strengthen the role of the family and give it more prominence in society than I feel it has been given before."

In his Christmas message on December 22, 1984, the Prime Minister said: "The family unit must remain the cornerstone of our society."

And when his fourth child was born, the Prime Minister declared that the family was the most beautiful thing in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I would invite all the Conservative Members of this House to remind the Prime Minister of these words, since he has cut \$55 million, over two years, from support programs of low-income families. The only family that has been able to benefit from the largesse of this Government is the Reichmann family, which received a present of \$600 million from the Conservative Government.

Mr. Speaker, in concluding, I may point out to the House that my former colleague from Verdun is with us today.

● (1415)

#### ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

#### TRADE

##### CANADA-UNITED STATES NEGOTIATIONS—CULTURAL INDUSTRIES

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg-Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, both no doubt now visiting Florida, I will direct my question to the Deputy Prime Minister.

Once again we have another example of confusion and contradiction in the Government in its handling of a very vital trade issue. In particular, the Secretary of State for External Affairs yesterday displayed a deplorable lack of understanding of the situation when he claimed the reason we were going to