

S.O. 21

[Translation]

HOUSING

AGREEMENT WITH QUEBEC ON SOCIAL HOUSING

Mr. Guy St-Julien (Abitibi): For many weeks, Mr. Speaker, the municipalities of Abitibi had been waiting for a signature and, last May 13, the Quebec-Canada social housing general agreement was finally signed.

This agreement is the outcome of a wide-ranging policy review process and of discussions between the two Governments. Some \$254 million a year are to be spent under this three-year agreement.

The new agreement is the mechanism which will make it possible to gear social housing assistance programs to poorer people, particularly those who spend more than 30 per cent of their income on housing.

In addition the two Governments are committed to fund exchanges aimed at launching a house renovation assistance program for which all Quebecers will be eligible as of July 1, 1986. Both Governments will share equally the \$70 million estimated cost of this program.

Besides being an effective means to ease the allocation of housing units to the most destitute individuals or families in Quebec, the agreement attests to the determination of the two Governments to sign a lasting housing assistance program.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Sixty seconds. The Hon. Member for Bourassa (Mr. Rossi).

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POLITICAL PARTIES

PERFORMANCE OF PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Mr. Carlo Rossi (Bourassa): When the Conservatives successfully ran for office, Mr. Speaker, they sold one or two trendy ideas to the people by claiming they had solutions to all problems experienced in this country.

Canadians were under the impression that the Conservatives had been in Opposition long enough to have time to prepare themselves, that they had devised novel solutions, that they had sought and found new avenues.

No, Sir, when the Conservatives took over in Ottawa they had no ideas, no visions, not even dreams to fulfil.

The Liberal Party has always been a strong advocate of social justice, equal opportunities, and progress. This is why Canadians will turf out the Conservatives at the next election and most certainly re-elect the Liberal Party.

[English]

PORNOGRAPHY

STRICTER REGULATION ADVOCATED

Mr. John Ostrom (Willowdale): Mr. Speaker, once a nation's moral fibre begins to decline so does that nation's character. The upcoming legislation on pornography is a test of our resolve. The control of pornography, as recommended by the Fraser report, cannot be allowed to be implemented. The proposed three-tier system of classification for pornographic material will only serve to entrench false images and feelings about men and women and sexuality.

There is strong evidence that pornography teaches sexual deviation, abnormal behaviour, and promotes violence towards women and children. Pornography is nothing more than vicious anti-women propaganda, whose sole purpose is to degrade by making women nothing more than objects. I believe that as legislators we must ensure that the forthcoming regulations regarding pornography are given the power to protect all Canadians from this type of exploitation.

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CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

PENSIONS OF FORMER EMPLOYEES

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill): Mr. Speaker, I come from a riding in which many thousands of CN pensioners live. On their behalf, and on behalf of CN pensioners right across the country, I would like to ask the Government to get on with the business of responding to the recommendations of the Subcommittee on Transport regarding CN pensions. I ask the Government to act very soon to correct the injustices which have plagued CN pensioners for years. This has been on the table for a long time.

The Government has recommendations before it. I hope very soon it will get about the business, in co-operation with the CNR, of taking all necessary steps to ensure that CN pensioners finally receive a decent pension, particularly those who retired some time ago.

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[Translation]

THE CENSUS

IMPORTANCE OF INFORMATION GATHERING

Mr. Nic Leblanc (Longueuil): Mr. Speaker, June 3 will be Census Day for all Canadians. The census is the most comprehensive source of specific information on Canadians. It provides a detailed picture of our society and a wealth of