

powers that have been assumed, all in a very legal way. These corporations enjoy some very large tax breaks, as in the case of O&Y which was mentioned today. While that particular loophole has been closed, there are other examples, such as the excessive use of non-voting stock, either common or preferred, which gives some of these groups enormous borrowing power. The major banks in this country have put awesome amounts of money at the disposal of these conglomerates. While these actions are legal, we must address a number of critical questions arising from this whole process.

While large world-scale corporations are essential and desirable if we are to compete in the world market-place in which we belong, we must also consider the pricing impact of these large corporations on average Canadians. If we get to the point where there are too few choices for Canadians this can lead to an insidious pricing network that is not fair, and the consumer will suffer as a result of a lack of choice.

In summary, two very critical issues have been addressed in this last hour. They are the ownership of financial institutions by non-financial institutions and the concentration of power in Canada. Neither of these issues has its place in Bill C-91 which deals with mergers and a number of other important subjects. Those two issues are too critical to be included in Bill C-91. They are most deserving of attention by the Minister of State for Finance (Mrs. McDougall), that is, regulations on financial institutions. Perhaps a royal commission or other body should examine these very important problems.

Might it be in order to call it one o'clock, Mr. Speaker?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I believe there is a disposition to call it one o'clock. It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock this day.

At 12:58 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS

SALT II TREATY—UNITED STATES POSITION

Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Lachine East): Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, June 1, Secretary Shultz and Secretary Weinberger repeated, and more clearly stated, that the United States would no longer abide by the 1979 SALT II Treaty, a landmark treaty to limit strategic nuclear weapons which took years to negotiate.

This statement was made two days after Canada and the other NATO allies in Halifax expressed their disagreement with the position of the United States. This unilateral decision by the United States could lead to a massive escalation in the

arms race and significantly threaten the peace and existence of all nations, not just the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

In these grave circumstances I urge the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark), with his NATO allies, to make further representations to the United States to abandon this dangerous unilateral adventure.

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HUMAN RIGHTS

EL SALVADOR—TREATMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS WORKERS

Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, in El Salvador, Michel Salinas and at least seven other Salvadoran human rights workers have recently been kidnapped, tortured, or arrested by the notorious Treasury Police. On May 31 Michel Salinas is reported to have confessed to being a member of the FMLN and named other individuals and organizations in El Salvador and other countries, including Canada, as being part of the FMLN.

The Canadian Government must act now to ensure an open international window on this situation. We cannot allow the silencing of voices on the gross and systematic human rights violations of the Duarte regime. We must press the Salvadoran Government to give the charges on which these arrested human rights workers are being held and make them public; permit Michel Salinas to meet with a reputable international human rights group to ensure her confession was voluntary and not as a result of torture as has been the case with so many others; release those arrested workers on bail or bond; set an early trial date for the accused and permit international observers, including one from Canada, to attend the trial of the accused.

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MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

COLUMNIST'S COMMENTS ON OPPOSITION MEMBERS

Mr. Paul Gagnon (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, in Sunday's *Calgary Sun*, columnist and former Mayor, Rod Sykes, commented on the conduct of the Opposition toward the former Minister of Regional and Industrial Expansion. He said: "I've read everything I can find but I can't find a serious accusation of substance". It was, as Mr. Sykes writes, "The volume of general purpose mud thrown at him day after day by the news media and a bloodthirsty and irresponsible parliamentary opposition that made it impossible for him to do his job".

Certainly Mr. Sykes is not alone in realizing that the protracted histrionics of the Opposition have only served to deprive Canada of an exceptionally talented and capable Minister. This columnist is so well qualified that the Liberals selected him as their candidate in Calgary East in the 1984 election.