

S. O. 21

[English]

## TOURISM

## ALBERTA SUMMER GAMES—INVITATION TO ATTEND

**Mr. Walter Van De Walle (Pembina):** Mr. Speaker, tourism is a \$22 billion industry in Canada—a vital part of our economy. Some 600,000 Canadians in over 60,000 businesses, many independently owned, owe their livelihood to our tourist industry. In the Province of Alberta the annual value from tourism is \$2.5 billion. Who can resist the breathtaking beauty of the Canadian Rockies and our national parks?

This year the County of Strathcona in my riding of Pembina is hosting the Alberta Summer Games, to be held August 5, 6, 7, and 8. Some 4,000 athletes will gather in Strathcona to compete in 30 sporting events, complemented by a major cultural festival. More than 3,000 volunteers have devoted their time.

I extend a warm invitation to everyone to come to Pembina for the Alberta Summer Games. I can assure them of a hearty western welcome.

As we say in Alberta, "Smile, you're a tourist attraction".

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## CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

## WESTERN REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill):** Mr. Speaker, rumours are abounding again about CN's plans to centralize its corporate structure, and CN President Lawless has been quick to deny any plan to close its regional headquarter offices in western Canada. At least, he has not confirmed the rumours.

However, we in Winnipeg are familiar with the process. We remember the denials of 1985, that the prairie region headquarters was not going to disappear, and along with it all kinds of senior jobs to Edmonton, and all the while it was actually happening. That was eventually stopped, but I am told that the jobs continue to bleed away to Edmonton in a much less controversial fashion.

I call upon Manitoba Tory Members of Parliament and all western Tories to defend western Canada, both Winnipeg and Edmonton, against any possible centralization of this sort.

While I am at it, I call upon the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Epp) to make good on the work he is doing to bring the new centre for viral disease control to Winnipeg as a complement to the excellent health sciences sector which already exists in Winnipeg. If Winnipeg were to get this very worth-while project, it would certainly go some way toward alleviating the sting of the CF-18.

[Translation]

## SPORTS

## TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL QUEBEC GAMES AT VAL-D'OR

**Mr. Guy St. Julien (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, Val d'Or is preparing for the Twenty-third annual Quebec Games, from August 7 to 16, a commitment it intends to meet out with its usual flair. The people of Val d'Or have adopted the slogan: A Heart of Gold, and they intend to live up to their legendary reputation for hospitality when they receive Quebec's young people this summer.

On this occasion, more than 4,000 participants, including athletes, group leaders and officials from eighteen sports-loving regions in Quebec, as well as thousands of local volunteers and thousands of spectators and visitors, will experience the excitement of this unique event. Twelve sports disciplines are slated for the 23rd annual Games. Competitive activities will be divided into two blocks of four days each. From August 8 to August 11, there will be track and field, bicycle racing, diving, softball, sailing and water-polo, and from August 12 to 15, baseball, swimming, pétanque, water-skiing, soccer and tennis. More than just a sports event, the Quebec annual Games at Val d'Or are a unique opportunity for Quebecers to make friends, celebrate, and discover and share new experiences. Mr. Speaker, the Twenty-third annual Quebec Games at Val d'Or will be the amateur sports event in Quebec *par excellence*.

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## OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

PIQUETTE AFFAIR—ALBERTA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
RESOLUTION—POSITION OF NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY

**Mr. Robert Toupin (Terrebonne):** Mr. Speaker, I was dismayed to learn about the resolution adopted by the majority of the Conservative Members of a committee of the Alberta Legislative Assembly censoring Alberta NDP Member Léo Piquette for asking a question in French, and blaming the daily *Edmonton Journal* for supporting the NDP Member and the French fact in Alberta.

This attitude on the part of the Conservative Members attests to their political immaturity, and constitutes an insult to and an unacceptable intolerance of Alberta francophones. The attitude of these Conservative Members shows disrespect for the freedom of the press.

On behalf of my Party and of all Quebecers, again I extend my support to the NDP Member, Léo Piquette, for his display of courage and to all Alberta francophones.