

Since the federal Government interacts with the ILO on behalf of the provinces, it is now appropriate and necessary for it to intervene with the British Columbia Government to ensure that the spirit and substance of the ILO decision are implemented in full. The future of progressive labour-management relations in British Columbia now lies with our Prime Minister and I urge him to act expeditiously.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NIAGARA RIVER POLLUTION

Mr. Joe Reid (St. Catharines): Mr. Speaker, national press comment of last week was to the effect that dioxin levels are 10 times worse at the Niagara site. This increase occurred over the past two years alone, according to the latest of many studies. Niagara residents and the millions who use the Niagara/Great Lakes for drinking water are concerned and upset. They are looking to the Government for action, solutions, and money.

Last week the Government announced a massive \$100 million plus for the lower St. Lawrence River clean-up. It is well needed and well done. Great for that region. The Minister of the Environment (Mr. McMillan) said in Montreal that the St. Lawrence River has been the subject of countless studies and it was time to act. I agree. It is exactly the same for the Niagara. There have been countless studies, and unacceptable pollution has been well identified. Action and federal money are needed now.

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HEALTH

AIDS DISEASE—FEDERAL FUNDING

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, it is a real shame that people have to burn a Minister in effigy before they get action on an issue as serious as AIDS. However, the pleas and entreaties of the Opposition and thousands of people across the country have finally borne fruit. We are expecting the Minister to announce today a \$129 million grant over five years, including \$48 million for public education, \$35 million for research, \$20 million for innovative community projects, \$10 million for training in health, and \$6 million for international activities.

However, I ask why the Minister is afraid to make this announcement in the House. Why is he, as we say in the jargon, low-balling it? Is it because he has no problem talking to Canadians about health concerns like smoking and family violence, but for some reason he cannot even deal with the word AIDS? He should follow the example of the Premier of Ontario who has shown some leadership in talking to our

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young people and our communities about this dreaded disease. He did not hide in a small group and make an announcement hoping that no one would hear about it.

Canadians should hear. We need public education if we are going to stop AIDS. I congratulate those groups who finally forced the Minister, hopefully, to wake up when he makes his announcement in about 45 minutes.

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TRADE

AUTO PACT—POSSIBLE SCENARIO

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, here is an interesting scenario. Assume that the Liberals and the NDP secured a slight majority after the next election—heaven forbid—and Prime Minister Turner sent Trade Minister Broadbent to Washington to tear up the trade agreement . . .

“Mr. President . . . er . . . ah . . . ooh . . . er . . . my bosses, Prime Minister Turner and Shirley Carr, told me to tear up this trade agreement . . . ” RIP, RIP, RIP “Good-day Mr. President”.

“Wait, hold on” said the President. The President took a copy of the Auto Pact from his desk and tore it into shreds. “Goodbye Mr. Broadbent”.

The next day the Liberal-Socialist coalition was thrown out of office.

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BANK OF CANADA

INTEREST RATE POLICY

Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, the Government's support for Chairman John Crow and the Bank of Canada's high interest rate policy in the name of curbing inflation is strangely reminiscent of the Diefenbaker Government's support of Bank of Canada chairman James Coyne's actions in the early 1960s.

What will the future hold for this Government which is not listening to the many voices calling out for lower interest rates? Interest rates shot up twice in the last two weeks alone.

The Government's policy of pushing our interest rates up causing the value of our dollar to rise is jeopardizing the competitiveness of many of our exports, particularly paper and lumber. In terms of the forest industry alone, the 81-cent dollar will result in a 1988 sales revenue loss of around \$900 million.