S.O. 21

[Translation]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

RESOLUTION ON FRANCO-MANITOBANS' LINGUISTIC RIGHTS— INVITATION TO ONTARIO PREMIER

Mr. Denis Ethier (Glengarry-Prescott-Russell): Madam Speaker, the unanimous support given the Government's resolution on October 6 by the Leader of the Official Opposition and the Leader of the New Democratic Party has raised them to the ranks of the great statesmen of our time, which include our Right Hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the Hon. Richard Hatfield, Premier of New Brunswick, and of course great statesmen of the past such as Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Hon. Edward Blake.

The telephone has not stopped ringing since that historic moment. Until late last night and again early this morning, my office was receiving calls asking me to express the callers' appreciation to our Prime Minister, to the Leader of the Opposition, to the Leader of the New Democratic Party, and of course, to all members from Manitoba.

These calls came from both English- and French-speaking Canadians, all of whom were from Ontario. In the light of the many calls received from Ontarians endorsing the gesture made yesterday by our three leaders, I would invite the Premier of Ontario, the Hon. William Davis, to join the league of great statesmen by officially recognizing bilingualism in Ontario, as has been done in the Province of New Brunswick.

[English]

SHIPBUILDING

NECESSITY FOR ISSUANCE OF CONTRACTS IN NOVA SCOTIA

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Madam Speaker, the employment situation in central Nova Scotia and along its eastern shore is extremely serious. Ferguson Industries and Hawker Siddeley are both facing a very bleak winter. The House will know—and the Government is certainly aware—that further shipbuilding orders can be awarded. There are few if any places in the country where employment is needed more than at Ferguson Industries in Pictou, Nova Scotia.

The Government is also aware that any refit work that is required would have a great and beneficial effect in keeping the work force at Ferguson Industries from facing, along with their counterparts at Hawker Siddeley across the harbour, another bleak and very unsatisfying Christmas.

If the Special Recovery Program is to be meaningful, surely there has to be proper assessment of priorities and, by the same token, the Government's purchasing and tendering policies should be seen to be equitable, and not open to further politicizing of the nature we have seen in recent months.

I am appealing to those on the Treasury benches to take heed of the very serious unemployment situation in that part of Nova Scotia, and to take some action to remedy it.

a (1110)

HUMAN RIGHTS

HONDURAS—SEIZURE AND DETENTION OF MIGUEL ANGEL ORTIZ

Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina): Madam Speaker, on September 26 in Honduras, Miguel Angel Ortiz was seized by Honduran security forces. Ortiz is executive director of the Christian Democratic Party, a recognized party with representation in the Honduras Assembly. He is also a member of the Electoral Commission of the capital.

Since he was seized, his court order for habeas corpus has not been honoured and no charges have been laid in court. This is shocking. Just two years ago Honduras went through a form of democratic elections. It is said to be a democracy with liberty for legal opponents and critics of the government, yet ever since the installation of President Suado Cordova in February, 1982, human rights have been under attack. First Salvadoran refugees were harassed, and even killed by the military. Soon Honduran citizens were being treated the same way. Ortiz is only the latest and most prominent of a number of Hondurans who have been kidnapped by the state.

An assault like this on the executive of an official party makes a mockery of Honduras' claim to democracy. Canada gives \$10 million or \$15 million per year in development aid to Honduras. Honduras is the main United States military base in Central America, and the base for United States supported invasions in Nicaragua. Therefore, Canada must either speak out firmly and publicly against the Honduras military assault on its own people and its neighbours, or share the blame for the destruction of human rights and life in Honduras and Nicaragua. I call upon the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) to intervene with the President of Honduras to request immediate release of Miguel Angel Ortiz.

[Translation]

EMPLOYMENT

REQUEST FOR YOUTH JOB-CREATION MEASURES

Mr. Jean Lapierre (Shefford): Madam Speaker, today, we have some encouraging news for Canadian since the unemployment rate has dropped to 11.3 percent. Unfortunately, one group of Canadians is not going to benefit as much, and I am referring to young men, among whom unemployment is at 30.9 percent and young women, where this figure is nearly 16.2 percent. I feel that this should make us challenge our traditional programs and wonder why their general effectiveness did not reach this segment of the population. People refer to