

AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

IMPORTATION OF JAPANESE VEHICLES

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex-Windsor): Mr. Speaker, the abject failure of Conservative policies toward the Canadian auto industry is dramatically clear. This industry has been the major force in economic recovery in Canada but, rather than help to expand auto jobs and exports, the Government has demonstrated inaction, indecision, and incoherence.

Last week Honda Motors announced a four-fold jump in its U.S. imports into Canada, thereby finding a back-door way to escape any Canadian import limits on Japan.

Over the weekend, reports showed a 19 per cent increase in monthly Japanese car imports over April, 1984. The Minister has continued to reassure this House that there is no need for legislation and that he would act if there were signs of an import surge. These import increases show we need action now. We need immediate quota limits on the major Japanese auto companies, and the introduction of effective Canadian content laws as called for by the Auto Task Force.

The Government must get its act together. It is time for the Minister to stop wringing his hands in despair, and start showing economic leadership.

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ABORTION

A DEFENCE OF THE UNBORN

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, Nazi Germany enacted a law permitting the extermination of "useless members of society". Now we have the same pattern evolving in which a whole category of people, the so-called "unloved, unwanted, and unborn" are being senselessly slaughtered.

● (1410)

The morality of our parents and grandparents where abortion was not accepted is changing drastically to a false belief that the growing baby is nothing but a "fetal tissue" and aborting it is just like having a tooth pulled. I believe life begins upon conception. It has been proven that brain waves can be detected at seven weeks, and at 18 days the beating heart of a baby already pumps blood through its own bloodstream. In addition, a fertilized ovum can be transferred from one woman to another, and the embryo is not rejected as is the case many times when a kidney is transplanted. Many babies born prematurely live, even those born as young as four and one half months.

Preserving the life of the mother, the expectation of a defective child, rape and incest account for only about 4 per cent of the abortions; mostly it is for the convenience of the mother or parents, and the argument that a child is not wanted is merely an excuse as there are hundreds of couples wanting to adopt babies.

S.O. 21

No one has the right to murder a child, born or unborn. The sooner we return to the morality of our parents and grandparents, the sooner thousands of unborn lives will be saved.

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CANADA BROADCASTING CORPORATION

CALL FOR RETENTION OF *THE FRIENDLY GIANT*

Mr. Barry Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, in response to my question on February 13, concerning the phasing out of *The Friendly Giant*, the president of the CBC wrote me last week and said that repeats from a library of 800 will run from April for at least a year, and that Friendly will continue to work with the CBC-TV children's department as a consultant, and star in some half-hour holiday specials for next year.

That is not good enough. I have received hundreds and hundreds of representations from Canadians of all ages begging that the program be perpetuated. Let me quote only a couple:

His warmth and gentleness are great—they discuss books and poetry and music—my kids dance and laugh and listen, and they learn about respect for people and animals.

Kathy Nicholson,
Orangeville, Ontario

And:

This is one of the few symbols distinctly Canadian and has added value of being non-violent, a rare feature in children's television viewing.

53 students, Faculty of Law,
McGill University

And:

Friendly, Rusty and Jerome are equal contributors in conversation from which children receive a sense of equality.

Rosalee and Allen Lockyer,
Blandford,
Nova Scotia

And:

To argue that 26 years is enough is like saying that because Shakespeare has been done for four hundred years is reason to drop it.

Rev. Peter Sharpe,
St. Joseph's Basilica,
Edmonton

I say to my colleagues, hang in there, don't be afraid of our big Crown corporations. Go after what you believe in. I believe the CBC is trying to close the drawbridge on three of our great Canadian fictional characters and I, for one, will not let that happen.