

S.O. 21

● (1410)

CITIZENSHIP

SPIRIT OF UNITY AND RESPECT

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, the peoples of Canada come from every country in the world. Joining the Indians, the Eskimos, and the Inuit were the early settlers from England, France, Belgium, Italy, Yugoslavia, Spain; indeed, from all countries of Europe; from China, India, Japan and all parts of Asia; from Central and South America, and Africa; from Iceland, Greenland, and the Philippines; from the U.S.A., and Israel, Lebanon and the Arab States. They all held their heads high as the Citizenship Judge said: "Now you are a Canadian".

They came, many with only the clothes on their backs, for many reasons, including the right to worship as their heart dictated, the freedom to build a home on land that they owned, and in the minds of all of them was the desire to build a heritage for their children. They brought with them the art and literature, the dances and expertise developed over the centuries in their homelands, which they gave freely to their adopted country. They all wanted to contribute in the building of a great young nation that had "freedom" as its watchword.

The PC Party of Canada recognizes the sanctity of every Canadian of whatever creed or colour. It is building a nation that respects the differences of others. From east to west and from north to south it is bringing harmony in diversity. A new spirit is spreading across our land, a spirit of unity and respect recognizing the rights, dreams and ambitions of others. Under the PC Government a strong, united, happy and buoyant Canada will reach its greatest potential.

Viva the PC Party! Viva Canada!

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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EXTERNAL AID

ETHIOPIA—SAINT-LÉONARD SCHOOLCHILDREN'S DONATION TO FIGHT FAMINE

Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard-Anjou): Mr. Speaker, on December 7 I had the honour of receiving from the students of Pierre de Coubertin School in Saint-Léonard a cheque for \$547 for the starving in Ethiopia.

Accompanying the cheque was a letter from Patrizia Gagliardi, a grade six student. I would like to read to the House two passages from this letter. It reads:

We thought that since we have everything, including a beautiful home in a first world country, we should help the needy people in the drought stricken country of Ethiopia. I personally can't imagine not having anything but a rag to cover myself and few days of life. I am sure I'm speaking for all my classmates.

The letter continues:

God gave us that beautiful thing called love and it should be shared and spread throughout the world. We felt that it was our duty as Canadians, Christians, and as human beings to save someone's life.

The students of Pierre de Coubertin School raised \$547, with the expectation that the Canadian Government would match that amount. We should be proud of our children, who by their thoughts and deeds express the joy of being Canadian, always ready to love and help.

I am touched by the kindness of these students, and I stand here today to thank them.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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AGRICULTURE

NATIONAL FARMERS UNION—MINISTER'S ABSENCE FROM CONVENTION

Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, members of the National Farmers Union felt that the cavalier attitude of the federal Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Wise) amounted to an insult to farmers across Canada.

The Minister failed to reply to letters inviting him to address the fifteenth annual convention of the NFU in Charlottetown, despite repeated efforts by the Union to get some sort of response. When the federal Minister of Agriculture failed to appear at the convention, a resolution was passed unanimously expressing the delegates' indignation and concern.

The resolution stated "that this convention go on record expressing its concern and indignation over the casual attitude of indifference and lack of communication" shown by the Minister in not responding to the invitation. It is the first time in 15 years that a federal Minister of Agriculture has not addressed the Farmers Union convention.

The resolution further noted that the serious problems confronting the family farms across the country, and the Minister's "indifference and casual attitude", do not bode well for the survival of Canadian food producers.

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FOREIGN INVESTMENT REVIEW AGENCY

CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. John V. Nunziata (York South-Weston): Mr. Speaker, after years of slowly and methodically regaining control over our economy, the Tories are poised to halt and probably reverse the *maître chez nous* process through the creation of Investment Canada. The Tories should have named it "Sell-out Canada".

The lack of concern among Tories for Canadian independence and Canadian sovereignty, whether political or economic, should not come as a surprise. The Tories have never been able to shake the "master-slave" mode of thinking. In the early years of this century the Tories were determined to keep us bound to Britain. Arthur Meighen said: "Ready, aye ready," to Lloyd George during the Chanak crisis. Now we have