

*Oral Questions*

the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) arrived to open the Winter Games in Sydney.

Now the Government, through the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion (Mr. Côté), says Nova Scotia has to purchase a universal mill before the federal Government will honour its commitment to provide 70 per cent of the funding for the second phase of the modernization of Sydney Steel. This is treachery against the people of Nova Scotia and industrial Cape Breton. It is another commitment broken by the Government. It is not honouring its promises, and I ask it to follow through on the commitments it has made.

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[Translation]

**NATIONAL CITIZENSHIP WEEK**

## NATIONAL PRIDE

**Mr. Gérald Comeau (South West Nova):** This being National Citizenship Week, Mr. Speaker, I should like to say how proud I am to be a Canadian citizen.

Canada ranks among the world's most advanced countries in terms of the rights and freedoms enjoyed by its citizens. I am proud to live in a country which encourages all its cultural communities to protect and promote the language and traditions of their ancestors, a country which has always been regarded as a welcoming land. Its democratic traditions, its respect for individual freedoms, the industrious temperament as well as the pacific and tolerant character of its people are the envy of many nations. The most telling evidence of this is the fact that more than three million immigrants chose Canada as their adoptive country since the Citizenship Act first came into force in 1947.

Finally, I would dare assume that what Canadians lack most indeed is not the feeling of national pride but only the opportunities to express it loudly and clearly. I therefore urge all my fellow Canadians to make the most of this National Citizenship Week to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of Canadian citizenship.

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**FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY**

## IMPORTANCE OF QUOTAS

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell):** Mr. Speaker, once again I want to draw the attention of Hon. Members to the disastrous situation with which the Canadian footwear industry must come to grips.

Since quotas were abolished on November 30, 1985, men's footwear imports have gone up by almost 50 per cent. Specifically, Southeast Asia imports rose from 63,000 to 213,500 pairs, an increase of 238 per cent.

In my riding of Glengarry—Prescott—Russell one firm in particular had to let go two-thirds of its employees, with the result that 150 people found themselves without jobs. Although the Minister for International Trade (Miss Carney) did meet with Canadian footwear industry officials, no decision has yet been made.

What we need from this Government, Mr. Speaker, is a five-year policy to guarantee jobs in the footwear industry. Quotas must be reinstated for at least five years. Only such a measure would make Canadians sure that they will keep their jobs.

● (1420)

**ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**

[English]

**FINANCE**

## PROPOSED DOME PETROLEUM TAKEOVER—REQUEST FOR REFERRAL TO PARLIAMENT

**Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance made a number of completely inconsistent statements yesterday in the House about the Dome Petroleum situation. He said, as reported in *Hansard*, that the situation is urgent. Then he said let the process run its course. Then he said that there should be a private sector solution. Then he hinted that there may be major tax rulings.

Is the issue an urgent one or not? Does it involve major tax rulings affecting billions of dollars of taxpayers' money, and more fundamentally, does he intend to bring the whole issue before Parliament before the transaction is completed so that we can avoid the costly mistakes of the Gulf and Western deal and the costly bank bail-outs?

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition refers to costly mistakes. It was the costly mistake of the National Energy Program that got Dome Petroleum into the situation it is in today.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre):** I know the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition agrees with that. He said it on many occasions prior to taking that seat over there.

He asked about the position of Dome. Yes, Dome's position will require some urgency as things progress because, as the Hon. Member knows, it is a takeover situation which requires immediate response to what is happening in the market-place.

When the Hon. Member asks about tax rulings amounting to billions of dollars, I think he should distinguish between a