

The Minister first went to the Val Senneville town hall, where he met Mayor René Paré and the councillors. The Minister and I then went to the Tenhave farm, where we donned overalls and helmets to tour the site.

This farm is one of the best known in the region for its rapid growth and the quality of its products. It has won many prizes for excellence, including one awarded last fall by the eastern Abitibi branch of the UPA for first place among Holstein growers.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister took the time for a leisurely conversation with Mr. and Mrs. Tenhave and their two sons, Paul and John.

This was an excellent meeting for the farmers; it gave them the opportunity to discuss with their Minister of State for Agriculture the future and the situation of dairy farmers in the country and in Quebec.

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● (1410)

[English]

SOCIAL AFFAIRS

VIEWS OF MR. ROBERT CAMPEAU CRITICIZED

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane—Superior): Mr. Speaker, it has been said that there is no fool like an old fool. If the old fool is also very rich, that foolishness may be compounded.

It is reported that Mr. Robert Campeau, who became rich on government contracts with guaranteed returns—

Mr. Murphy: Liberal government contracts.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: I am sure the House is waiting in anxious anticipation for the completion of the Hon. Member's remarks.

Mr. Penner: I hope that that is not taken from my time, Mr. Speaker.

It is reported that Mr. Robert Campeau, who became rich on government contracts with guaranteed returns, and who went on to greater and greater rewards, now admires the rugged individualism of the American republic and he thinks that there is too much social concern and humanity in Canada. He points with much disdain to our social security programs and our medicare system, and he calls on us to have them reduced.

I would say that the frankness of his views does help us in at least one respect. He has enabled us to understand better the parable of the camel, the rich man, and the eye of a needle.

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AIR CANADA

SUPPORT FOR PRIVATIZATION

Mrs. Mary Collins (Capilano): Mr. Speaker, 51 years ago the first Trans-Canada Airlines plane, a 10-seat Lockheed Electra, departed Vancouver's Sea Island on a flight to Seattle. Much has changed since that first flight. TCA became Air Canada, one of the world's major airlines with 22,000 employees.

Now, with great foresight, the Government has announced plans for its privatization. The naysayers in the Opposition, like an over protective parent, would have us keep Air Canada in the pampered and sheltered yoke of government control.

After 51 years in the public sector, Air Canada has fulfilled its mandate, and the time has come for the company to spread its wings. The Government's planned share offering will give Air Canada the flexibility that it requires to update its fleet and remain competitive into the 1990s and beyond.

Privatization works. With 13 Crown corporations sold or in the process of being sold, our policy is right on track, indeed, in full flight.

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FISHERIES

GEORGES BANK—CALL FOR BAN ON OIL EXPLORATION DRILLING

Mr. Jack Harris (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, the jig is up. The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. Siddon), and the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Masse), can no longer sit on the fence between the interests of the fisheries and the demands of Texaco Canada Resources on the issue of oil exploration on the Georges Bank. The Governments of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, fishermen, fish processors, fishing communities, and the organization NORIG have all insisted on banning drilling and oil production in this most concentrated area of fisheries resource which is very vulnerable to environmental contamination.

In late February the Gulf of Maine Advisory Committee agreed, and wishes the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to support amending Bill C-75 to ban drilling in this area which it calls a vast nursery of lobsters, scallops, cod, haddock, and other species of critical importance to the economies of southwest Nova Scotia and the south coast of New Brunswick.

No more stalling by the Minister of Energy! No more inaction by the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans! Amend Bill C-75, ban drilling on Georges Bank, and protect this vital fishery.