

riding of Labelle is by road only, which, for all practical purposes, has created a monopoly situation with respect to transportation for the travelling public, and any situation . . .

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry, but the Hon. Member's time has expired. The Hon. Member for Humboldt-Lake Centre (Mr. Althouse).

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[English]

AGRICULTURE

FARMERS' NET INCOME LEVELS

Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, as the Parliament of Canada resumes, I want to draw attention to the continuing and worsening financial crisis facing Canadian farmers. Low farm incomes have continued over the last decade. Net farm incomes are now almost identical to those of 10 years ago. It costs almost three times as much to live today as it did in 1974, but Canada's farmers are being told that they will have to adapt to a much reduced real net income.

When confronted with the facts, the Government speaks of harsh realities and of how many of the existing farmers should not remain in business, or it says that when the market is working there must be failures. With these glib ideological statements, the Government ignores the facts.

Who is being forced out of farming? It is the so-called technologically superior producers who are being forced into bankruptcy. It is the most productive farmers who are in the younger age groups who are being forced out. These farmers made the apparently unforgivable error of attempting to upgrade their productive capabilities.

The special needs of beginning farmers are being ignored by the Government as it recycles the old policies of the previous Government. It offers only minor respite from high interest rates. It will allow higher-cost loans to be rescheduled, but at 13¼ per cent. This is happening in an industry that has shown an ability to generate a return of only 3 per cent to 4 per cent.

There may be some hope, Mr. Speaker. The Government now seems to be talking about a rent-back provision reminiscent of the Saskatchewan land bank scheme. Will the new Government ignore its philosophical rhetoric and actually—

Mr. Speaker: I regret to advise the Hon. Member that his time has expired.

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CANADA

HAPPY NEW YEAR GREETING

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, Happy New Year! What? With a \$200 billion debt, over one million people unemployed, a deficit of \$37 billion and our treasury empty and, I am saying "Happy New Year"?

S.O. 21

Yes! We have tremendous untouched natural resources; the finest soil in the world; an abundance of livestock, manufacturing, industrial and transportation potential which is probably greater than that of any other country; a skilled and energetic people, including thousands of youths who are able to train for any technical job in the world; universities of high standards; oceans and rivers loaded with fish; entrepreneurs large and small who are ready to invest and go to work; teeming cities; beautiful contrysides; clean air and clean water. Indeed, we have an abundance of everything that is needed for a worthwhile, good, and healthy life.

We have a great country, and a new Government that is determined to hold Canada together through fair and honest dealings by providing an opportunity to management and workers to increase productivity. Productivity is the bottom line when dealing with paying off our debts and helping all those who need help.

King George VI brought hope to the free world when it was facing annihilation by quoting a poem by Haskins, which reads as follows:

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown!

And he replied: Go out into the darkness and put thine hand into the hand of God. That shall be to thee better than light and safer than a known way.

So Happy New Year, Canada!

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NATIONAL PARKS

HALIFAX CITADEL AND LOUISBOURG FORTRESS PROJECTS

Mr. David Dingwall (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, on November 9, 1984, the Government of Canada announced that the restoration of one of Canada's most visited historical sites, the Halifax Citadel, has been cancelled, and that the completion of capital projects at the Fortress of Louisbourg has also been frozen. As all Members are aware, the Halifax Citadel is one of the last surviving examples in North America of a bastioned fortification. It incorporates the past, and presents it to its visitors. It conveys the feeling of history to all who visit this site. It provides us with culture and helps explain why we have two great official languages, English and French.

The Citadel is scheduled to be completed in the 1988-89 fiscal year and, if left uncompleted, will end up as an eyesore and disgrace not only to the people of Halifax but to Parks Canada personnel as well. The cost in closing out this project is substantial because of the required mothballing of equipment, severance pay, loss of employment, and the potential loss of tourist dollars.

The freeze on capital projects at the Fortress of Louisbourg, which I might add is the jewel of Parks Canada, will stall major maintenance to exterior details of some of the buildings which require installation of period shelters and storm windows to protect the buildings during the winter season. I urge that the Minister responsible for Parks Canada, and the