S. O. 21

In order to be a good northern corporate citizen, BCE should operate NorthwestTel as an autonomous affiliate, seek ways to ensure northern ownership in NorthwestTel, and have resident northerners both sitting on its board of directors and also in senior management positions.

IMMIGRATION

EXECUTION OF DEPORTATION ORDER

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg—Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, this morning at the Winnipeg International Airport immigration officials executed a deportation order against Miss Sally Espineli, just the latest example of an uncaring, unforgiving attitude which has permeated the Department of Immigration since the Government came to power.

Miss Espineli first came to Canada eight years ago. She was unable to get a job under her married circumstances, and told immigration officials she was single because that was a requirement by the company, even though she is now divorced.

The Canadian Human Rights Commission is currently investigating Miss Espineli's case to determine whether immigration policies have in fact discriminated against the human rights code. This decision will have national implications.

Yet despite presentations by the head of the Human Rights Commission to the Minister directly, and the mock signs of concern, the deportation order was executed. By refusing to display any sense of compassion she has shown herself well suited to the administration of the kind of Draconian immigration policies which have characterized the Government. To use Sally Espineli's own words: "This is my home now, my second country".

The Minister has ensured that this is no longer the case. There is still a final chance. Miss Espineli will not have to leave the Port of Vancouver until five o'clock. I remind everyone of the ancient words of the Talmud: "To save one life as if you saved the whole world.

[Translation]

FREE TRADE

REQUEST THAT SENATE PASS BILL C-130

Mr. Marcel R. Tremblay (Quebec Est): Mr. Speaker, we cannot build a strong Canada, as the Leader of the Opposition

(Mr. Turner) would have us do, with a weak economy, a record deficit and record inflation, interest and unemployment rates, which was the situation we had under the previous Government.

To stand on its own two feet and defend its sovereignty, Canada must be strong and it must be respected. The kind of sovereignty to which the Leader of the Opposition referred is theoretical and illusory.

The sovereignty we defend is genuine sovereignty that allows political and economic relations with other countries and at the same time makes Canada stronger.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the Liberals in this House and in the Senate will not take Canadians hostage, because those same Canadians will soon be judging their actions, and that judgment will be merciless.

I also ask the Senators to ratify the agreement within the next few days, because otherwise Canadians will ratify the agreement for them, thus making those Senators redundant.

[English]

TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—EFFECT ON NEWFOUNDLAND

Mr. Jack Harris (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, it was a great surprise to hear the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) yesterday suggest that the trade deal with the United States would enhance Canadian vitality and ensure the expression of our nationhood, and then use Newfoundland's union with Canada in 1949 as an example.

He should know that by joining with Canada in 1949, Newfoundland forever gave up its right to be a sovereign nation and many decisions about Newfoundland's future would be made in Ottawa, not in Newfoundland and Labrador, including social programs and regional development policies.

He should also know that the earned income of Newfoundlanders in 1949 was less than half the Canadian average and now is only slightly better at 55 per cent, after almost 40 years.

It is still the province with the highest unemployment and the least share of regional development funds. Average Newfoundlanders and average Canadians will not benefit from throwing our lot in with the great North American market and tying our hands regarding our future.