

Before I resume my seat, I wish a tremendous success to the police forces of the Regional Municipality of Ottawa—Carleton in their campaign to buckle up safety belts during the forthcoming two weeks.

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TAXATION

ELIMINATION OF LOOPHOLES

Mr. Guy St. Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, the former Liberal Government instigated the worst tax fraud in the history of this country with the tax credit to stimulate research in 1983-84. Marc Lalonde, John Turner, Pierre Elliott Trudeau and the Liberals made Canadian taxpayers lose billions of dollars.

At the beginning of 1984, the Liberal Government, through the Department of Finance, came to know that the tax deduction plan for scientific research was giving rise to problems and Marc Lalonde had expected that the plan would only cost \$200 million. It did cost \$3.5 billion and up to \$1.9 billion were lost as a result of frauds.

In Victoria, a 28-year old mechanic registered in a computer course for beginners, launched a research business in data processing and obtained \$5 million under the program. According to the last reports, he was in Hong Kong promoting a book on break dancing.

In Calgary, a businessman was granted \$30 million. He bought two office buildings, a Jaguar and a 106-acre ranch before he also disappeared.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Wilson was clever and wise enough to axe the program shortly after the Conservative Party came into power in 1984, but the Canadians should be better informed about that Liberal flop.

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● (1410)

[English]

TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES TRADE AGREEMENT—WATER RESOURCES

Mr. Ernie Epp (Thunder Bay—Nipigon): Mr. Speaker, I rise to protest the sell-out of Canadian water through the Government's trade agreement with the United States. In return for an utterly inadequate trade dispute tribunal U.S. negotiators have obtained the right to future use of Canadian resources as if they were U.S. resources.

S. O. 21

The Grand Canal concept of transferring massive quantities of fresh water from the Canadian Shield to the southwestern U.S. has suddenly become likely.

Robert Bourassa, who advocated this idea before the last Quebec election, and Simon Reisman, who lobbied for it before he became the Government's trade negotiator, are understandably pleased. However, the needs of aboriginal peoples, the ecology of the James Bay region, and the weather of central Canada are all to be sacrificed to the greed of U.S. water wasters.

Why did the Government not protest the flagrant subsidy of U.S. vegetable and fruit growers who pay \$13 for water worth \$350? Why were countervailing duties not used against this subsidy to discourage U.S. interests from lusting after Canadian resources? In the future will Canadians buy more U.S. vegetables and fruits grown with water from the Canadian Shield?

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CONSUMER AFFAIRS

CHILDREN'S NIGHTCLOTHES—INTRODUCTION OF FLAMMABILITY STANDARDS

Mr. W. Paul McCrossan (York-Scarborough): Mr. Speaker, over the last nine years I have regularly raised the fact that each year an average of 20 children under the age of 10 have been severely burned when their pyjamas caught fire and that one or two deaths have resulted annually from these burns. Last May I tabled a Private Member's Motion to require the Government to bring in new standards for flame retardant children's nightclothes.

It is with a great deal of personal satisfaction that I report to the House that effective this week night-gowns, night-shirts, dressing gowns, bathrobes, housecoats, robes, pyjamas, and baby-doll pyjamas up to and including size 14X are subject to stringent flammability standards.

In my view the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Andre) deserves the thanks of Canadian parents for stopping another 20 children a year from being seriously burned and for saving one or two children's lives annually in future.

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CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

PLIGHT OF EARLY RETIREES

Mr. Dave Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my support to those individuals who took pre-retirement leave from the Cape Breton Development Corporation as long ago as 1974-75. The purpose of that