

*S.O. 21*

admirable project initiated by the Sainte-Lucie teaching staff at Jonquière, who felt it was important their pupils understand what the World Day of Peace means.

\* \* \*

● (1405)

[English]

**FERRIES**

## MARINE ATLANTIC'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF FARE INCREASES

**Mr. George Henderson (Egmont):** Mr. Speaker, Marine Atlantic is at it again. Over the past weekend we were informed that passengers will pay 30 cents more for each one-way crossing from Prince Edward Island to New Brunswick. Rates on the Nova Scotia-Newfoundland service will increase by \$1 per passenger and \$2 per vehicle one way, with various rate increases for other ferry services provided by Marine Atlantic.

There was no consultation with the Premiers of Prince Edward Island or Newfoundland before these increases were announced. This type of treatment of our island provinces must stop. The Mulroney Government must stop hiding behind Marine Atlantic and other Crown corporations, and stand up for the rights of our island provinces.

It is time the Government told Marine Atlantic that enough is enough. It is time that the Minister of Transport (Mr. Crosbie) recognized that Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland are part of the Canadian Confederation, and as such should be treated equally with other Canadians. They should be able to travel to and from their sister provinces without paying those unjust ferry rate increases.

\* \* \*

**CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS**

## PLIGHT OF COMPANY PENSIONERS

**Mr. Dennis H. Cochrane (Moncton):** Mr. Speaker, the five-member all-party subcommittee on the Canadian National Railways pension system was appointed by the former Minister of Transport, the Hon. Don Mazankowski, in April, 1985, to study all aspects of the Canadian National Railways Pension system. The report of the subcommittee contained recommendations that were comprehensive, fair, and realistic. It was presented to the House of Commons in April, 1986, and forwarded to Canadian National Railways for study and reaction. Six months have passed. Although pensioners have waited patiently and expectantly, CN has not yet responded. Our excellent efforts as a Government in general pension reform, and the sincere concerns expressed by CN pensioners appear to have gone unnoticed by CN. The only response from that corporation to date has been silence.

My patience and the patience of the 47,000 Canadian National pensioners are rapidly eroding. Canadian National and its board of directors would be well served by responding positively to the recommendations for increases in pensions, spouses' allowances, and survivor benefits. CN must reply quickly to show that it is concerned about the financial security of those who gave many years of service to the Canadian National Railways system.

\* \* \*

**STATISTICS CANADA**

## STAFFING OF WINNIPEG OFFICE

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill):** Mr. Speaker, I recently wrote to the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada about the future of Statistics Canada in Winnipeg. Until last year the Winnipeg office worked with one regional director and two assistant regional directors. The director retired last year and he has not been replaced. The two assistant regional directors report to the regional director in the Edmonton office.

● (1410)

This is not the first time this has happened to Winnipeg since the Tories took office in 1984. The CN tried it in its prairie region. Transport Canada had it in mind in respect to the regional office in Winnipeg. Now Statistics Canada is getting away with it by downgrading its office in Winnipeg.

How many more times does this have to happen before Manitoba Members of Parliament in the Conservative Party stand up to the Edmonton caucus and the Vegreville caucus which seem to want to move everything of regional significance from Winnipeg to Edmonton? Progressive Conservative Members of Parliament from Manitoba say absolutely nothing about it. They should be ashamed of themselves.

\* \* \*

**IMMIGRATION**

## ADMISSION TARGETS FOR 1987

**Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West):** Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the Government will be announcing the new immigration targets for next year. Speculation has it that these numbers will be increased. However, I warn the Minister and the Government that it is futile to set unattainable targets; by this I mean not matching the figures with the resources and personnel available in our consulates across the world to process the appropriate numbers.

For instance, this year targets have been set at between 105,000 to 115,000. However, immigration officials have confirmed that, based upon six-month statistics, these numbers