

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NORTHERN ONTARIO—GOVERNMENT'S RECOVERY PACKAGE

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane—Superior): Mr. Speaker, yesterday, at long last, the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Mazankowski) revealed in the House the elements of the so-called recovery package for northern Ontario. I am grateful that the Government has recognized the difficulties being experienced in northern Ontario. We have a failing regional economy.

What are the Government's initiatives? The establishment of an economic development committee. We know all about committees in northern Ontario. There is the transfer of federal agencies to northern Ontario. Which ones, where, and when? The Government will dedicate program moneys to northern Ontario. Will that be new money, how much, and when will it be received? There is special tax treatment for investors. What are the details and when will we have them? So far what we have are general directions and some good intentions. What the people of northern Ontario want is immediate action leading to the restoration of lost jobs.

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AGRICULTURE

TRIBUTE TO WORK OF UNITED GRAIN GROWERS LTD.

Mr. Walter Van De Walle (Pembina): Mr. Speaker, last week I visited with some 300 farmer delegates from all points of the Prairies at the 80th annual meeting of the shareholders of the United Grain Growers Ltd. I ask Members of the House to recognize one of Canada's great self-help organizations, and to reflect for a moment on its origin.

May I start with the United Grain Growers' mission, and I quote:

United Grain Growers is a farmer-owned and controlled company, with the objective of furthering the economic well-being of western Canadian farmers by providing agricultural services and influencing farm policies.

This great institution was born from need. At the turn of the century farmers were opposing grain handling and rail combines that were fixing prices, grades, and shipments.

After 80 years of working for farmers, the mission of this organization remains the same, farmers working with farmers, for farmers.

Most Canadians would recognize the names of Senator Thomas Crerar, former Member of Parliament for Manitoba

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and United Grain Growers' second President, Mr. Mac Runceinan, who retired recently, to be succeeded in office by the able current President, Mr. Lorne Hehn.

Mr. Speaker: I regret that the Hon. Member's time has expired.

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PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

RETENTION OF GENERIC DRUGS URGED

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I want to share with Members of the House, particularly with the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Andre), a letter that I recently received from a woman in Winnipeg who wants to see generic drugs retained. She wrote:

I work in the health care industry rehabilitating persons who have had heart attacks or other heart related illnesses.

It goes on:

More than a few of our members spend \$120 or more on one of their prescribed medications every month. Usually, these individuals have more than one prescribed drug and they look forward to the availability of these drugs in their generic forms because of the price cut and the pharmaceutical effect which is equal (to the brand name drug).

Individuals on drugs prescribed by their physician are usually of two types where I work—seniors, or persons of the age of majority who are unable to work a 40-hour work week because of the nature of their illness.

All have in common—a fixed income!

Keep the generic drug trade—in fact promote it!

That is exactly what New Democratic Party Members of Parliament intend to do.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

PRIVATIZATION OF PAROLE SYSTEM QUESTIONED

Mr. Alan Redway (York East): Mr. Speaker, this week a shopkeeper in Montreal shot and killed a thief during an attempted robbery. Two weeks ago a pharmacy owner shot and killed another robber in Calgary.

Reactions to these vigilante incidents clearly demonstrate the lack of confidence Canadians have in the ability of our justice system to deal effectively with criminals.

In light of these incidents and the reactions to them, the decision by the Correctional Service of Canada to hand over part of our parole system to a volunteer organization seems somewhat incredible. It is no reflection on the John Howard Society, but can the public truly be expected to believe that this will mean more, not less, strict supervision for convicted criminals on parole? Is this really the message the Government wants to send out at a time when more and more Canadians are deciding to take the law into their own hands?