

S. O. 21

hand at critical times. I would like to acknowledge some of them today.

Over the last few weeks about 40 federal inmates from the Ferndale Institution in Mission, British Columbia, have been putting in 12-hour days assisting the B.C. Forest Service in fighting fires in the Norrish Creek area. These inmates were trained by the B.C. Forest Service in firefighting techniques. This training program has not only provided a worth-while opportunity for inmates to acquire some new skills and use their time productively while incarcerated, but it has also demonstrated that they can continue to make a valuable contribution to the community while serving their sentences.

Such demonstrated personal commitment and community awareness on the part of staff of the Correctional Service of Canada and the inmates participating should be praised. They are setting a unique example for other institutions as well as for the general public.

Let us thank them and tell them to keep up the good work.

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AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT

GRANT MADE TO EDMONTON AMUSEMENT PARK PROJECT

Ms. Marion Dewar (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister of State for Science and Technology (Mr. de Cotret) told the House that his \$5 million grant to Fantasyland created 15,000 jobs. Curious about this 15,000 jobs I called the personnel office at Fantasyland to inquire about the number of people employed by the Ghermezians. My request for information was flatly denied.

I am concerned about a Government that violates its own grant eligibility guidelines to open the public purse to friendly developers. I am concerned about a Minister who boldly asserts that 15,000 jobs were created by the application of this grant but shies away from the particulars. I am concerned about an employer who has clearly instructed his staff not to release employment figures. Surely if the Ghermezians did create 15,000 jobs, they would be proud to affirm this fact to the public. Perhaps their reluctance to reveal the size of their labour force is prompted by the knowledge that the 15,000 figure does not hold water unless, of course, the dolphins are on the payroll.

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HISTORIC EVENTS

COMMEMORATION OF SLOVENE INDEPENDENCE

Mr. Andrew Witer (Parkdale—High Park): Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, October 29, Canadians of Slovenian heritage

celebrate their Independence Day. In 1918, under the leadership of Dr. Anton Korosec, the Slovenes withdrew from the Austro-Hungarian empire and proclaimed their independence. Later in that same year they joined as equal partners with Serbs and Croats to form the Kingdom of Yugoslavia.

Over the years, Slovenian immigrants to Canada have contributed greatly to the growth and development of this nation, one example being Reverend Frederick Baraga, a Slovenian missionary who, in 1830, came to Canada to work among the Indians and later became the first Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie and Marquette. Today, the Slovenian community is a vital and thriving community within the Canadian mosaic.

Canadians of Slovenian heritage invite all Canadians to join with them in commemorating Slovene independence and its underlying reminder of the continuing struggle to establish freedom and justice for people of all nations.

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● (1410)

AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT

RELEASE OF EMERGENCY DRUGS ON TO MARKET

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, Canadian consumers may not know that last year almost 10,000 drugs which were not properly tested by Government authorities were sold to the public.

[*Translation*]

This point has been raised by the Auditor General who said that close to 10,000 drugs sold in Canada this year have not been properly tested, which is another way of saying that the Government is playing Russian roulette with the health of Canadians because it has made cutbacks in health promotion.

[*English*]

The Auditor General pointed out that these 10,000 emergency drugs which were released on to the market actually created a potential risk for people. This shows that the Government is prepared to play Russian roulette with the health of Canadians by putting drugs on the market-place that are not properly tested because of cut-backs in health protection and promotion.

The health of Canadians is too sacred to be put at risk. We urge the Government to reinstate the full budget for the Health Protection Branch to ensure that drugs put on the market are properly tested. We do not want to have another thalidomide situation, and that could be the result of this very disastrous government cut-back.