

excellent report, Members of this House also look forward to the early tabling of the promised White Paper on National Defence.

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[Translation]

UNEMPLOYMENT

DECREASE IN NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, the good news keeps coming in, ever since a Conservative Government was elected in Ottawa. Last Friday, Statistics Canada announced that the unemployment rate in Canada had gone down again. From 11.7 per cent in September 1984, it has now dropped to 9.6 per cent in 1986, the lowest unemployment rate in at least four years. Mr. Speaker, this is the result of sound policies, policies that promote the creation of real jobs throughout this country.

Among our youth, the unemployment rate dropped from 18.4 per cent during the last election to 15.9 per cent in March. This means a drop of more than 79,000 in the number of young people who are unemployed. I may recall that in four years of Liberal Government, 142,000 more young people became unemployed. When the Leader of the Opposition was Minister of Finance, 115,000 young people joined the ranks of the unemployed. Unlike our Liberal opponents, we don't waste time making the headlines, but we concentrate on putting Canada back on the road to prosperity.

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[English]

NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR TESTS

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, scheduling another underground nuclear test is not the way to create an atmosphere conducive to world arms control and mutual balanced force reduction. Canadians are saying that nuclear tests should become a memory of the past—they do not make sense. Therefore, Canadians, by and large, do not support today's test in Nevada because they are very uneasy about nuclear tests in general.

● (1410)

It is worth noting for the record that of the 1,509 nuclear tests held so far, India has held one, China has held 29, the U.K. has held 38, France has held 128, the Soviet Union has held 556, and with today's test the United States has logged 758. What real purpose is served by holding nuclear tests in this day and age?

S.O. 21

TERRORISM

INTERNATIONAL ACTION PLAN URGED

Mr. Bob Pennock (Etobicoke North): Mr. Speaker, terrorism is a cancer festering in the body of our global village. Canada is no longer a peaceful nation which was once insulated from this bloodshed. The time has come to face the reality that terrorism is ultimately aimed at destroying the foundation of our civilization. No citizen of the world is immune from this threat.

The time has come for all peace-loving nations to join together in a common front. We need to go beyond the various UN conventions and the Helsinki Accord to establish an international plan of action. Our Government has initiated some much-needed improvements to deal with this threat in Canada. However, more needs to be done. Let Canada become the world leader in developing a sound, co-ordinated plan of action or agreement against terrorism which would be acceptable to any peace-loving nation in the world.

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FORESTRY

CALL FOR CREATION OF FULL MINISTRY

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, the National Forestry Congress begins in Ottawa tonight to address the serious issues facing Canada's forest industry. The industry is under attack on a number of fronts, including the U.S. forest industry. It is facing serious underfunding problems and, in spite of being Canada's number one export industry, it still does not rate the status of a full federal Ministry.

Surely this is an ideal opportunity for the Government to demonstrate the priority this critical Ministry deserves by declaring in the next two days the creation of a full Ministry of Forestry for Canada. The industry is too important to be regulated to a third-rate status. Mr. Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney), give the Minister responsible for forests something to do. Give him an opportunity to do a real job.

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VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS

TRIBUTE TO WORK OF SERVICE CLUBS

Mr. Gus Mitges (Grey—Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, all of us owe a debt of gratitude to those who have taught us bits of wisdom and given us excellent advice and insight to understand better the world in which we live and work. We owe, as well, a tremendous debt to our country and our home communities which have given us safe and secure havens to build on our hopes, and to help fulfil our needs and aspirations.