

## S.O. 21

volunteers whose selflessness and co-operation ensured the outstanding success of these festivities to highlight the 25 rewarding years of Sainte-Odile parish.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I was able to see for myself that volunteer work is a virtue in itself and that men and women who are active in this field create around them an atmosphere of vitality and an unmistakable sense of gratitude. The unqualified success of the Sainte-Odile parish 25th anniversary celebrations attests to the rewarding fall-out of volunteer work. Again I commend Sainte-Odile parishioners for their active participation and dynamism. Our community is richer thanks to these people.

Bravo and congratulations for remarkable work and noteworthy activities, Mr. Speaker!

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## NATIONAL DEFENCE

## REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF CF-18 FIGHTER AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

**Mr. Jacques Guilbault (Saint-Jacques):** Mr. Speaker, Montrealers and as a matter of fact all Canadians are rightly concerned about disclosures made in *La Presse* this morning to the effect that the Government has manipulated bids for the contract concerning the maintenance of the Canadian Armed Forces CF-18 fighters.

This morning the Survival Committee for Canadair stated that two months after the call for tenders in January 1986, the Department of National Defence was ready to accept an unsolicited proposal made by Bristol Aerospace including a 13 per cent price reduction from its first bid. Why has the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Beatty) accepted a second proposal from the Bristol group? To what extent were those dealings legal? How can such a bid be reduced by 13 per cent within a period of a mere two months, Mr. Speaker? The Government has to shed some light on that mysterious way of administering tenders for the contract with respect to the maintenance of the CF-18. Otherwise this Government will seriously jeopardize its credibility.

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[English]

## TOURISM

## INVITATION TO ATTEND FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS AT NIAGARA FALLS

**Mr. Rob Nicholson (Niagara Falls):** Mr. Speaker, there is no faster growing industry in Canada than that of tourism. It is predicted that by the turn of the century tourism will be the largest industry in Canada. Therefore I think it is prudent for

all levels of government to do everything possible to promote tourism.

When promoting this industry, everyone should keep in mind that, year in and year out, the single largest tourist attraction in this hemisphere is Niagara Falls. Visiting the Niagara Peninsula are approximately 14 million people per year and they are not there just to see the Falls. The Shaw Festival, the Welland Canal, Fort George and the Niagara scenic parks are just a few of the attractions that keep people coming to Niagara. Now that Expo has just closed, it is time for everyone to come on home to Niagara Falls. They will be just in time for the Festival of Lights.

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● (1410)

## FINANCE

## NONPAYMENT OF INCOME TAX BY TRANSCANADA PIPELINES

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the need for a fair, just, and equitable tax system for all Canadians, I wish to announce today's winner of the great untaxed corporation award. It is TransCanada PipeLines, which was, through successive Liberal and Conservative tax measures, granted the right to pay no taxes in both 1980 and 1981 on profits totalling \$256.6 million.

Had the tax system been fair and equitable, and had TransCanada PipeLines been required to pay even a 25 per cent tax rate on its profits, average Canadians would have paid \$64.2 million less in tax because of this one company alone.

This award is a reminder to the Government that there is a serious and immediate need for comprehensive tax reform.

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[Translation]

## TEXTILES AND CLOTHING

## NEW IMPORT POLICY

**Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond):** Mr. Speaker, recently the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion announced the Government's new policy on textile and clothing imports. This means the multifibre agreement under the GATT is renewed, and this Conservative Government intends to renegotiate and extend bilateral restrictive arrangements with more than 25 countries exporting low-cost clothing. Thanks to this new step, there will be a more moderate rate of growth of imports consistent with the domestic market. Those are two vital industries, employing as they do more than 20 per cent of Quebec's manufacturing manpower.

Further, the new policy includes a customs duty return program aimed at increasing the competitiveness of our shirt