

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, April 18, 1986

The House met at 11 a.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[Translation]

CROWN CORPORATIONS

SALE OF CANADIAN ARSENALS LIMITED—EMPLOYEES' PENSIONS

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): On December 2, 1985, Mr. Speaker, the Government announced its decision to authorize the divestiture of Canadian Arsenals Limited in Montreal. Established in 1945, this corporation is one of the most profitable agencies of the Government of Canada, with 750 employees in Montreal and 50 more in Saint-Augustin near Quebec City.

Mr. Speaker, Canadian Arsenals employees were completely ignored when the Canadian Government made its decision, for they stand to lose most of their benefits once the corporation has been sold. For instance, Mr. Speaker, the pensions of these employees: a 29-year-old employee with 12 years' seniority will lose \$17,213 a year under the new—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The 60 seconds have expired. The Hon. Member for Humbolt—Lake Centre (Mr. Althouse).

* * *

[English]

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION

HIRING PRACTICES IN HUMBOLDT—LAKE CENTRE CONSTITUENCY

Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt—Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin the day with a small puzzle for Members of the House. It is a brain teaser concerning a real life situation. Since I do not know the answer, I will ask the House.

Young people in my constituency who are permanent employees of the Department of Employment and Immigration are regularly hired in the fall as permanent employees, and then receive unemployment insurance in the spring when their jobs are filled by two university students. When those students go back to school in the fall, the permanent employees become members of the Employment and Immigration staff again. The puzzle I have for Hon. Members is this. Has that created three

jobs, two jobs, or one job? Those Hon. Members who get the answer have places reserved for them in the line-ups in front of their local Canada Employment Offices.

* * *

● (1105)

VANDALISM

DEFACING OF UKRAINIAN MONUMENT IN EDMONTON

Mr. William G. Lesick (Edmonton East): Mr. Speaker, on the evening of April 6 the monument commemorating the memory of millions of Ukrainians who died during the famine of 1932-1933 was defaced for the second time outside Edmonton City Hall. The words "Nazi lies" were painted on the monument.

The Ukrainian Canadian Committee and the Jewish Federation of Edmonton stated, and I quote:

This act of vandalism undoubtedly reflects the views of an insignificant sector of our society, yet it serves as a reminder that there are still those who will not accept the reality that the man-made famine of 1932-33 took place.

As a Canadian of Ukrainian racial origin I am outraged at this act of vulgarity against the memory of over six million Ukrainians who were starved at the hands of communism. This monument reminds us of past evils and atrocities committed against Ukrainians. People may deface monuments, but they cannot erase the memory of a people or change the truth of history.

* * *

[Translation]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION CONTROL IN CONSTRUCTION OF NORANDA

Mr. Gabriel Desjardins (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Environment, the Hon. Tom McMillan, publicly stated this week that our Government is prepared to put up a sizeable part of the \$150 million needed to build the Rouyn-Noranda industrial depollution plant which, between now and 1990, would recuperate 50 per cent of the 500,000 tons of sulphur dioxide released annually through Noranda smokestacks.