

this fundamental right to the Charter, it will introduce a property rights resolution to the House, with the usual planning, so that it can be dealt with properly.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SRI LANKA—CALL FOR UNIFIED SOCIETY

Mr. Robert Wenman (Fraser Valley West): Madam Speaker, having recently returned from Sri Lanka I have witnessed and discussed with Sri Lankans the result of inter-communal violence in that nation.

The barbarous nature of man has emerged and demonstrated the worst of its most basic elements, in a state considered to be educated, enlightened and civilized. Human rights atrocities have been committed and a pluralistic democracy may be at risk.

A fragile developing economy has suffered severe dislocation. These events are particularly tragic in light of the recent successes of new conservative economic policies which include reduction of government subsidies, removal of import quotas, and the establishment of free trade zones.

It is hoped that Sri Lanka will find peace, justice, stability and economic progress as the process of negotiation, compromise and reconciliation unfolds. Canada can play a key role in that process by supporting political attempts to forge a unified society, and aiding economic revival and growth by continued development aid.

Canadian aid, however, should be an element of political stabilization and economic growth leading to self-sufficiency, not to repression and colonialization. The Canadian Government should receive concrete guarantees from President Jayewardene that the resettlement as a result of the Mahaweli Dam project, partly funded by CIDA, will be predicated on existing ethnic ratios, and that future aid will be evenly distributed throughout the country.

I hope that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) will raise these issues when he attends the Commonwealth Conference in India in November.

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PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

SUPPORT FOR POLICIES OF MANITOBA NEW DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT

Mr. Terry Sargeant (Selkirk-Interlake): Madam Speaker, I cannot let yesterday's statement by the Hon. Member for Winnipeg-Assiniboine (Mr. McKenzie) stand without correction. The Hon. Member, never one to let facts cloud his thinking, told the House that the Manitoba Government is the worst in this country for business and that it leaves Manitobans no hope for recovery. How can that be?

S.O. 21

Is the NDP Government in Manitoba worse than Alberta's Tory administration where the rate of economic growth is lower than Manitoba's, in fact one of the lowest in Canada?

Can it be worse than the Tory Government thrown out of office by Manitoba voters a couple of years ago—the same Tory Government that drove Manitobans from the Province in greater numbers than at any time in recent history—the same Tory Government that simply could not, in its last year, match the business starts of the current NDP Government in this last year?

Let me set the record straight. Under the Tories, Manitoba suffered its first absolute population decline in many years. Mr. Lyon was simply driving people out of the Province. It was only when the voters threw him out of office that Manitobans began to return. In fact the population growth in the last year was the greatest since 1963.

• (1410)

Manitoba's NDP Government was left a dismal economic future by the Tories but it is turning that around. This year alone, by working with small business, it has been able to reduce bankruptcies by 22 per cent. The interest rate relief program has saved some 500 small businesses from the threat of—

Madam Speaker: Order, please. The Hon. Member's time has expired.

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[Translation]

EMPLOYMENT

NECESSITY TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE LIVING ON QUEBEC NORTH SHORE

Mr. André Maltais (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Madam Speaker, once again, the North Shore has been struck by major lay-offs. Last week, I was in Schefferville, and I now want to ask the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Gray) and the Minister responsible for Employment and Immigration (Mr. Roberts) for additional funding to help more employees of the Iron Ore Company who were laid off last week.

Madam Speaker, for a number of reasons, workers on the North Shore have the impression they have been abandoned by everyone. We no longer have a president at the Iron Ore Company. The position has not been restored, so there is no longer any contact between workers and company management, which has produced a tremendous feeling of insecurity. Soon other towns on the North Shore may be affected, and I would like to bring up the subject here in the House because we will need additional funds if, once more, the Government is to take up the slack left by private companies, which after taking advantage of the skills of their workers are now drop-