

S. O. 31

really is a more cost-effective way of helping to train our people.

Another way in which these training devices contribute positively to Canada, and perhaps this is not something usually thought of, is that the use of simulators and simulator training devices helps to protect our environment. We all know of Canadians' concern for environmental protection these days. Simulators are some of the most environmentally sound and energy efficient ways in which to provide military training and maintain necessary skills. For example, a jet fighter aircraft would be flown a fraction of the time if its crew were to be trained equally well in flight simulation. They not only save time. They save expense and energy.

This is why ARMX plays such a useful role. ARMX is much more than a defence trade show. It is a meeting place, a forum for Government and industry to exchange information and ultimately come together and work together to improve our Forces' training and our operational effectiveness. That is why we support this training technology exhibition.

However, our involvement is relatively limited. First, there is no public money spent on ARMX whatsoever. It is sponsored, organized and conducted by defence publications which are owned by Baxter Publishing. In other words, this is a private exhibition run by private industry for the benefit of both government and industry. While we do provide some direct support in terms of equipment and personnel, the cost of these services is recovered in accordance with the regulations.

I see, Mr. Speaker, that my time is limited for now. I will look forward to returning to the discussion following Question Period.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

FOOD AND PROCESSING INDUSTRIES

Mr. Ross Stevenson (Durham): Mr. Speaker, in sharp contrast to the moaning we heard from opposition

Parties during the free trade debate, the agriculture and food processing industries in Canada are growing and not dying.

• (1100)

The current massive reinvestment in these industries bodes well for future markets and for jobs.

Responding to a quadrupling in sales of oat bran, Quaker Oats has announced a \$13-million expansion and upgrading of its plant at Peterborough, Ontario. This expansion will provide an even greater market for Ontario and Canadian oats. That means more jobs for workers in this industry.

Even more significant, those new facilities at Peterborough will produce one line of breakfast cereal which is currently imported from the United States. As a farmer, I am pleased to say that the food processing industry in Canada remains healthy and vigorous.

* * *

TOURISM

EFFECT OF BUDGETARY CUTS ON INDUSTRY

Mrs. Beryl Gaffney (Nepean): Mr. Speaker, as we reach the end of National Tourism Awareness Week, Canadians are recognizing that this year the Government has turned the occasion from a celebration into a wake.

This is nowhere more evident than in the National Capital Region, where our efforts to promote Canada's capital as an international tourist destination are being hit doubly hard. Not only are we facing a future \$20-million cut to Tourism Canada's budget, but also an immediate \$5-million cut to the National Capital Commission's budget.

Recently, the Government changed the mandate of the NCC to give the Commission more responsibility for tourism promotion, and yet the Government has slashed the resources available to do the job.

When will the Government start to realize that investments in areas such as tourism are more than paid back in benefits to local economies? When will the Government rescind these cuts?