

*S.O. 21*

when those objectives are met. However, let me submit to you, Sir, that there could be a system under which the farmers could both afford to pay and get richer at the same time. Today, under a system of inadequate transportation, farmers who combine in the fall of the year put their grain in their granaries and it may sit eight months to a year accumulating not one cent of interest. It is value stored. For their operating costs the farmers go to the bank and borrow at interest. If those farmers could move that volume of grain to market faster because there were performance guarantees, they would receive cash to meet their operating costs and be able to avoid interest charges. In that case they could afford to pay more if certain objectives were met, and both the railways and the producers would be better off. I submit that the New Democratic Party should do some rethinking of their motions.

Mr. Speaker, I will call it one o'clock, because it is now one o'clock.

**Mr. Althouse:** I think he has had about eight minutes.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** I believe we should proceed in that way, then, because I notice there are two Hon. Members seeking to be recognized. Accordingly, while the Hon. Member for Crowfoot has completed his remarks, when we reach Orders of the Day the Chair will look to whomever may want the floor at that time.

It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock this afternoon.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

**AFTER RECESS**

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

**STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21**

[*Translation*]

**FREEDOM OF THE PRESS**

CENTENNIAL OF "LA PRESSE"

**Mr. Robert Gourd (Argenteuil-Papineau):** Madam Speaker, it took a lot of courage, back in 1884, to launch the daily newspaper *La Presse*. Highly politicized at first, the paper became a reflection of society as it evolved over the years. *La Presse* is 100 years old today. For 100 years it has reported the news, but above all, it became an institution, so much so that even our legislators tried to protect it. Madam Speaker, today we wish to salute the men and women who have defended our right to be informed over the years, the journalists, who are important, although we must not forget the printing staff, delivery boys and girls, and so many others.

About *La Presse* it can be said that although time goes by and nothing remains the same, we can always rely on *La Presse*. We are indeed fortunate in this democratic society of ours that not only allows freedom of the press and freedom of information but actually promotes those freedoms.

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[*English*]

**INDUSTRY**

WHITE FARM EQUIPMENT LTD.—CALL FOR CONTINUANCE OF COMPANY

**Mr. Lee Clark (Brandon-Souris):** Madam Speaker, officials of the Government met yesterday with the receiver for White Farm Equipment Limited, which indicates a decision on the fate of the company is imminent. Nobody is more concerned about this decision than the approximately 120 White Farm Equipment dealers, their 1,000 employees, and the thousands of farmers who own White implements. The message many of these people have received from the Government is causing them great concern. For example, a White dealer in Warren, Manitoba, stated in a telegram to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Lumley) "The only solution is to keep White Farm ongoing and this must be done immediately".

This particular dealer, and others who have signed petitions calling for the continuance of the company, expressed their perception that the Government is not necessarily concerned about keeping the company alive as a separate, viable entity. Yet the Receiver has been given offers which would keep the company going.

Farmers who own White implements want assurances that they will be able to get replacement parts. White dealers do not want to lose their businesses. Nor do they want to go into other equipment lines, which in many cases are already being carried by their competitors down the street. What these dealers do want is assurance that they will stay in business. Surely that is not too much to ask.

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**DISARMAMENT**

SIXTY-ONE-DAY FAST TO PROTEST WORLD MILITARY EXPENDITURES

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce-Lachine East):** Madam Speaker, on October 5 Karen Harrison, a young Toronto dancer, completed a 61-day-fast to focus attention on the links between military spending and world-wide hunger. In ending her fast she asked Canadians to support the various rallies for disarmament to take place on October 22, this Saturday, and to make a one-day fast on October 24, United Nations Day, in order to divert the money saved to international development.

While one-third of the world's people lack the basic needs of life, world military spending is now over \$600 billion a year.