

● (1110)

SPORTS**CANCELLATION OF TRAVEL SUBSIDY FOR UNIVERSITY ATHLETES**

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to protest the elimination by the Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport (Mr. Jelinek) of the travel subsidy for students to travel from Atlantic and Pacific Canada to attend Canadian university athletic competitions. From an original \$500,000 allotted by Liberal Governments, to \$378,000, to zero by the Conservative Government for university athletic travel subsidies, is another example of the Government's disdain for regional equality.

The purpose of the federal travel equalization grant to the Canadian Inter-University Athletic Union was to allow students from universities in British Columbia, Alberta, and other parts of western Canada right through to Memorial University in Newfoundland, to attend and participate in competitions across Canada. I must ask, Mr. Speaker, if some of the taxpayers' money that is spent on the Prime Minister's (Mr. Mulroney) foreign travel could not be spent just as effectively on travel for students from British Columbia and Newfoundland to attend their university competitions.

The Minister has given me an undertaking to meet again with the university representatives. I will be following the results.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS**TRIBUTE TO PAGES AND STAFF**

Mr. Don Ravis (Saskatoon East): Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate today to pay tribute to all the men and women who have made our jobs as Members of Parliament immeasurably easier over the last year. To the messengers, mail people, cafeteria and restaurant staff, committee and House Clerks and all the other House of Commons staff, on behalf of my colleagues on both sides of the House I offer my sincere thanks and appreciation.

I would also like to thank a very special group of young Canadians whose cheerfulness and dedication have been a fine example to us all. The 40 House of Commons Pages have worked very hard for all Members this year while at the same time attending university full-time. This year's Pages were chosen from hundreds of qualified applicants. They represent all the potential Canada's youth have to offer.

I know that the memories and friendships formed this year will remain strong as the Pages continue their individual endeavours, and I want to wish them all the very best as they pursue their careers in their chosen fields.

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Whatever they do, wherever they go, I know my colleagues join me in wishing them every success. I would not be surprised if some of them returned to sit in the House of Commons as Members of Parliament. God bless them!

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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[Translation]

REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT**RESTARTING OF FORMER GULF PLANT IN MONTREAL EAST**

Mr. Richard Grisé (Chambly): Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, Montreal East residents heard another good news: the Lavalin engineering firm announced that it would restart the former Montreal East Gulf plant through its Phérolmont affiliate. This investment by a Quebec private sector concern will create over 200 jobs when production begins in January 1987. This is further indication that prospects for the Montreal East petrochemical industry are brightening. As Hon. Members may recall, last year our Government gave financial support to Pétromont to help the company maintain its operations.

Notwithstanding what many Opposition Members may have stated last winter, Montreal East will remain a major petrochemical centre. Although Opposition Members took a negative approach with respect to employment in Montreal East, our Government has always been convinced that a positive position was justified in this instance.

[English]

Once again the Government has fulfilled its political engagements for the Montreal region. That is a good Government, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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INDIAN AFFAIRS**MISMANAGEMENT IN MANITOBA REGION**

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands): Mr. Speaker, the Minister's special investigation into the Manitoba region of the Department of Indian Affairs substantiated charges made by the Manitoba chiefs. Departmental officials had incorrectly coded disbursements of funds, had been involved in misleading reporting, had underfunded programs that had been transferred to Indian band control, and had cut existing programs. Further, departmental officials at a high level had made incorrect statements to the Public Accounts Committee of the House. In spite of these very serious charges, the Minister has not yet sat down with Manitoba chiefs to discuss what must be done to correct this situation.