

### Supply

make them feel as though they were at home and we must make sure that it becomes profitable for businesses to make them feel that way.

As well, Canadians are not obligated to spend their money here in Canada. It is easy enough for Canadians to go to the United States and spend their money there. The fact that our dollar is now worth about 78 cents American does not seem to stop Canadians from going south of the border, particularly when they can save 30 per cent on a tank of gas and when hotel and food bills are cheaper because taxes are lower. We need a Government that understands these kinds of dynamics and does not implement one policy to encourage tourism and then implement another one to discourage it.

Those of us who live in western Canada enjoy the beauties of our area just as those who live in every other sector of the country enjoy the peculiar beauties of their own areas. We in the west do not particularly appreciate the fact that the Government institutes the kind of policies which make it difficult for people to come and visit us. Tourism is good for the health of the nation and is good for mutual understanding. I trust that the Government will do something to give Canadians and the tourist industry the understanding that we are for them rather than against them.

**Mr. Harquail:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Hon. Member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta (Mr. Friesen) who, in his usual fashion, has delivered a very eloquent speech on a very important topic. Tourism is a big business in Canada. He talked about some of the elements of tourism which affect western Canada. However, I am wondering if he would be prepared to elaborate further.

Earlier today, we were speaking of some of the celebrations which are going on in Canada. In Newfoundland, there is the re-enactment of the first Viking landing. There are celebrations in Yellowknife, and New Brunswick is celebrating its bicentennial and the visits of His Holiness, the Pope, and Her Majesty, the Queen. In Quebec, there is a celebration called "Tall Ships", and there is a program which the Minister responsible for tourism has implemented called "Canada, What a Country". There will be many celebrations and festivals in my own home province, including the "Bon Ami Week" at Dalhousie.

I wonder if the Hon. Member would be prepared to tell us about his impressions of Expo '86 and the preparation and planning which are going into this major event that will draw many, many people to Canada and certainly to his own constituency.

**Mr. Friesen:** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member has overlooked the fact that I did not read my speech. I wish he had complimented me for speaking strictly from notes.

I do welcome the Hon. Member's question. First, I wish to point out to him that I am a westerner and I am not as familiar with Central Canada as I would like to be. However, I believe that the federal Government was not very generous toward the United Empire Loyalist celebrations in Ontario. I recall some of my colleagues making representations on behalf

of constituencies in which such celebrations were taking place and getting short shrift from the federal Government.

All of that aside, Sir, I know that these kinds of investments are being made. The Hon. Member did not mention the Jacques Cartier celebrations and a great many others. What I was trying to tell the Hon. Member is that it does not matter how much money is invested in such celebrations if, on the other hand, people are discouraged from coming here. People hear about all of these great things. They want to come here and are encouraged to come here, but when they get here, they find out that they cannot afford to stay. With the one hand we give and with the other we take away.

Let me conclude my remarks by referring to Transpo in Vancouver. I am glad that the Hon. Member reminded me of that. Earlier this afternoon, I heard the Hon. Member for Mississauga North (Mr. Fisher) expounding on the greatness of the Trillium Centre in Mississauga. He wants federal support for that. B.C. Place was built with British Columbia money, not with federal money. B.C. Place is doing a very good job, thank you. The fact is that some federal money is going into Transpo. One of the things this project did was to invest British Columbia and federal money in a transportation system that was developed in Ontario. As a matter of fact, Vancouver is pioneering the use of Ontario transportation technology in Canada. They have not been able to sell that technology anywhere else but British Columbia is taking a chance on a Canadian product. We are spending good provincial and federal dollars to bring that transportation system to Vancouver.

**Mr. Harquail:** Mr. Speaker, I suppose I should not be surprised to find that it is difficult to get a positive reply from someone to your left. We know of the doom and gloom tactics and the negative positions of most Tory members. However, I was hoping that this particular Member would show me some consideration. Instead, he went off the topic to speak about the time when I gave a speech and was referring to facts and figures. At that time, he was upset about a document to which I was referring. It was my right and indeed my privilege to refer to that document.

I was stressing the point of federal contributions to the provinces. With respect to the bicentennial celebrations in my own province, federal contributions will be \$2.5 million this year. The province will contribute an equal amount of money, making a total of \$5 million. We know of the millions and millions of dollars that go into facilities such as the ski facilities in our own area.

● (1540)

The Hon. Member talked about the dynamics of the Minister of State for Small Businesses and Tourism (Mr. Smith) who has spent an awful lot of energy touring the country trying to get people to come on side with this promotion of Tourism Year 1984. As a Member from the west, would he join the effort to attract more Americans to our country? Would he comment on the number of Americans who visit his