March 11, 1987

[Translation]

PUBLIC WORKS

MIRABEL EXPROPRIATIONS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mrs. Lise Bourgault (Argenteuil—Papineau): Mr. Speaker, this morning I received a telegram from the people who were expropriated at Mirabel, and the Canadian Press reports that Ottawa will be reviewing their case.

Mr. Speaker, since the visit by Government officials to Sainte-Scholastique may have caused some confusion owing of the kind of questions they asked and their attitude to the memorandum signed by the former Minister of Public Works and representatives of those who were expropriated, today, I would like to give my constituents the assurance that I will never agree to any changes in the memorandum of agreement unless they are made to upgrade conditions for farm support.

The expropriated people at Mirabel and those who are tenants on their own land have suffered and are still suffering as a result of the absurd expropriation program implemented by the Liberals at the time. I was quite shocked today when I noticed some criticism of the settlement negotiated by our Government, which has contributed to the prosperity of Mirabel.

Finally, my constituents can rest assured that I will keep a close watch on this matter. In fact, I already have the unconditional support of all Members of the Conservative caucus from Quebec.

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[English]

ABORIGINAL RIGHTS

INCLUSION OF SELF-GOVERNMENT IN CONSTITUTION

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane—Superior): Mr. Speaker, Canada today is positioned to lead the world in the affirmation and accommodation of the rights of aboriginal people. Canada can take this lead later this month by recognizing and defining within our Constitution the inherent right of this country's aboriginal peoples to self-government. Around the world the rights and claims of indigenous people are receiving increased attention and support. The questions are profound, the problems complex, but here in Canada the means of resolving these issues are ready at hand.

The rights of Canada's aboriginal people are rooted in history, a history that predates the arrival of European explorers and settlers by many thousands of years. Fundamental among those rights is that of self-government, a right which was never relinquished or extinguished. By recognizing this right and by providing for its effective implementation, we will not be locking aboriginal people into the past, we will be ending a system which excludes them from the present and the future. S. O. 21

[Translation]

LIBERAL PARTY

CRUISE MISSILE TESTS—PARTY POSITION

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Last Monday, Mr. Speaker, we witnessed dissension among the Liberals concerning the cruise missile tests.

The Members for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Lachine East (Mr. Allmand), Davenport (Mr. Caccia), Winnipeg—Fort Garry (Mr. Axworthy), and York South (Mr. Nunziata) rose to vote against their leader and endorsed the motion of the socialists.

Picture the Hon. Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce— Lachine East now associating with the socialists: a hazardous approach to collaboration with the Soviet Union.

As to the complete about-face of the Hon. Member for Saint-Henri—Westmount (Mr. Johnston) in this House last Friday, it attests to the kind of stuff he is made of. As well, the silence of the Hon. Member for Sudbury (Mr. Frith)—former Liberal caucus chairman—in this House Friday reflects the weakness of their Party. Will the Leader of the Liberal Party clarify the position of the rebellious members of his caucus? Will the time ever come when the leader will say something, when he will have something to say?

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, was the Liberal Party's internal conflict so deep and so emotional that the leader was absent for the vote?

[English]

YOUTH

PUBLICATION LISTING PROGRAMS

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, for those who have been waiting for the Government's long-promised policy on youth, we now have their answer: the *Hot 100*. It is a seductively coloured booklet described as a quick guide to what the feds are doing for youth. Its function is to make the Minister of State for Youth (Mr. Charest) look good and, my God, he does, in a full-page glossy photograph right on the first page. Go beyond that distraction and there are indeed some good programs listed and tips given which will be useful. Unfortunately, there is a lot that is not.

• (1415)

Curiously, the book includes programs which are not run by government at all, such as the Canadian Federation of Students Work and Travel program. The Missing Children Program, OHIP, Canadian Assistance Program, and Community Futures, surprisingly and creatively, turn out to be things the Government is doing for youth. Not too surprisingly, as