

S.O. 21

agricultural export development are not being duplicated. It also ensures that we are combining our resources, wherever possible, in order to pinpoint new market opportunities and help the private sector take advantage of these international market opportunities.

Not only is interdepartment co-operation vital to the success of trade development, but co-operation in the private sector is also essential. That is why my Department is involved in providing export counselling and in co-ordinating private sector trade initiatives. Agriculture Canada staff also works with the private sector to help identify and overcome technical problems in the export market. Together we have been able to establish animal health agreements which, in turn, have opened the door to many new trade opportunities. Only last year Canada and China signed five animal health agreements covering a range of agricultural commodities. As a result, Canada has been able to make shipments of live cattle and swine into this very important export market.

My Department has been actively involved with the private sector in trade missions and seminars abroad. For instance, in recent months we sponsored a dairy seminar in Ecuador and one in Peru. With the help of the industry we produced an export promotion bulletin on alfalfa pellets for farm livestock and we expect to produce more bulletins in the future. We organized a dairy seminar this month in China and are organizing others in Portugal and Spain as well. We participated with other federal Departments in Food Pacific 86 which was a tremendous success in Vancouver this year. In co-operation with the private sector we are organizing a strong presence for Canada at this year's Ag China Show, just as we did last year.

Madam Speaker, I recognize that the Sergeant-at-Arms has noticed the clock, as have you and I. I think it would be appropriate for me to call it one o'clock.

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagnes): Order. It being one o'clock, I do now leave the Chair until two o'clock later this day.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS

FRONTIERS FOUNDATION—CALL FOR REINSTATEMENT OF FUNDING

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane—Superior): Mr. Speaker, safer, warmer houses for needy Canadians are a goal which is

worthy of government support, especially when those houses can be provided in a way which will actually save the Government money. Yet the Government is turning its back on a national charitable organization which provides just such a service.

Frontiers Foundation has worked for two decades to provide better housing and living conditions in low-income native and non-native communities. Since 1964 it has helped to build or renovate more than 1,000 homes in disadvantaged areas.

The use of volunteers means more money can be spent on building materials. Instead of supporting this worthy organization, the federal Government has cut back its assistance to the point where there is nothing so far this year. With Frontiers Foundation, the Government gets value for money. Funding, therefore, should be reinstated.

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POLITICAL PARTIES

HOMOSEXUAL AND LESBIAN POLICE RECRUITS—POSITION OF NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, the New Democratic Party is urging the Government to compel the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to accept lesbians and gays. Can you feature a fairy RCMP constable trying to arrest a lumberjack with a powder puff? Can you imagine a lesbian RCMP fairy at the scene of an armed robbery screaming: "Stop, surrender, or I will hit you over the head with my purse"? If fairies were not hired, they would cry discrimination. The RCMP—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I would ask that the Hon. Member perhaps examine some of the words in his statement which might very well be very offensive to a great number of Canadians and might cause a question of privilege or point of order in the Chamber.

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Speaker, the RCMP is an excellent police force because it recruits men and women who meet its high standards and who can do the job required. If we compel the RCMP to accept recruits from certain groups, thus giving such groups special consideration, we will not only weaken the force but, more than that, we will discriminate against better qualified Canadians and, indeed, against the people of Canada.

The RCMP is now the finest police force in the world. Let us keep it that way. Viva the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.