

## S.O. 21

will be flying. This is great news for all of us in southwestern Ontario, and a symbol of our Government's commitment to the Air Command and to the London Air Show.

\* \* \*

## LABOUR RELATIONS

## ANTICIPATED SETTLEMENT OF EATON'S STRIKE

**Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill):** Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about the tentative agreement between Eaton's workers, their union, and the company. Many of the workers in that company are middle-aged women who are underpaid, who receive unfair benefit packages, and who face retirement with inadequate pensions.

I think this House, regardless of political affiliation, should congratulate the workers at Eaton's stores for finally obtaining a chance to have a say in their own future so they can ensure that the middle-aged workers and part-time workers of Eaton's will not have to face the problems they have faced when dealing with a family run firm which has shown absolutely no concern for the future and livelihood of its own employees.

\* \* \*

## NATIVE PEOPLES

## USE MADE OF ALLEGED CABINET DOCUMENT

**Mr. Thomas Suluk (Nunatsiag):** Mr. Speaker, the recently leaked document, so called, dealing with native programs is being treated as gospel by our communications networks in the Northwest Territories. I find it disturbing that the opposition Parties would use the native people to try to undermine growing understanding and co-operation with the present Government, thereby creating an indirect form of racial tension.

Having recently returned from South America and a convention on trade in endangered species, I have seen how pampered we native people, indeed all Canadians, are by our Government. This attempt to exploit the ignorance and gullibility of some people is, to me, repulsive, and something which was rejected by the Canadian people last September.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Suluk:** Coming from a region of Canada where the majority of the population is supported by government programs and services, and listening to accusations based on leaked documents alleging cut-backs in services to native people, is like telling your children that you are cutting off their candy supply. In the end, it causes tooth decay. This is what too much government has done, not only to native people but to many Canadians who make a living by biting the hand that feeds them.

● (1410)

I urge all native people in Canada to change with the times; ignore figments of radical reporters' imaginations and opposi-

tion disruptive tactics, and work with us instead to tackle problems plaguing native communities.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

\* \* \*

[Translation]

## FEDERAL DEVELOPMENT BANK

## DANGER OF DISSOLUTION

**Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard-Anjou):** For the past week, Mr. Speaker, various Quebec newspapers have been reporting the Quebec people's concern about the possible dissolution of the Federal Development Bank. The government would have a hard time justifying the dismantling of the Bank. As of March 31, the Federal Development Bank had granted some \$85.3 million to 4,571 customers.

Moreover, the Bank will be holding a series of six seminars between April 30 and June 4. These seminars, which are intended for operators of small- and medium-size businesses, are very practical in nature and deal with business administration, personnel hiring and tax issues. As Jean-Louis Roy was commenting in the April 22, 1985 issue of *Le Devoir* daily, and I quote:

Those who favour the dissolution pure and simple of the Federal Development Bank will have to establish clearly the connection between this dissolution and the economic objectives of the Mulroney government. They will have to provide alternative solutions to small- and medium-size businesses which, for whatever reason, cannot secure financing from the private sector, and make sure that they are not left high and dry, doomed to stagnation and extinction, and forced ultimately to lay off their personnel.

\* \* \*

[English]

## PENSIONS

## PLIGHT OF ELDERLY SURVIVOR OF HALIFAX EXPLOSION

**Mr. Howard Crosby (Halifax West):** Mr. Speaker, our Canadian society and Parliament will be judged by how we treat those in need who deserve assistance. I want to take you back to 1917 when there occurred in the City of Halifax a gigantic explosion which caused the deaths of some 2,000 people and injured 9,000.

The world responded by creating a relief fund, which was then used to assist victims of the Halifax explosion. But shortly thereafter, in 1920, a young lady was asked to sign over her rights to relief for the gigantic sum of \$400. The Halifax Relief Commission then went on to provide thousands of dollars worth of housing assistance and other kinds of assistance to victims of the Halifax explosion.

Today, that lady, Mrs. Bertha Robar, lies in a nursing home bereft of all government assistance. She is 97 years old, and was partially blinded in the Halifax explosion. Our government officers in the Canada Pension Commission will not