

S.O. 21

SPORTS

MISSISSAUGA DOMED STADIUM PROPOSAL

Mr. Douglas Fisher (Mississauga North): Mr. Speaker, I urge Hon. Members to study the proposals for the Trillium Dome sports stadium of Mississauga. These proposals suggest a sports facility for southern Ontario which can be built without excessive demands on the public treasury. The Trillium Stadium would be built in Mississauga, only a half-hour drive away from either Hamilton in the west or Scarborough in the east, and less than one hour from Barrie, Oshawa, Kitchener, Guelph, and Niagara Falls. Our site offers a stadium to serve all southern Ontario, not just Toronto.

Equally important are the financing aspects of this plan. The stadium corporation now owns 2,000 acres of prime land. As land values around the stadium increase, land will be sold to pay for operating costs and to repay loans made for the initial construction.

● (1410)

Other ideas all involve massive public subsidies. Their costs can never be recovered. Taxpayers will never be repaid for initial public investments.

The stadium site in southern Ontario will be decided by the Ontario Government. I urge Members to study the Trillium proposal. If Members agree that a domed stadium should be built by private enterprise, then I ask that they contact Premier Bill Davis.

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CANADA POST CORPORATION

EFFECT OF POSTAL DELAYS ON SMALL BUSINESSES

Mr. Ron Stewart (Simcoe South): Mr. Speaker, in my capacity as deputy critic for small business and tourism, I have been requesting businesses in my riding to indicate the most important problems they are facing in their day-to-day operations. Mr. D. R. Dineen, President and General Manager of Canadian Tampax Corporation Ltd. of Barrie, wrote to me as follows:

Your letter was indicative of one of the problems facing small business today. Your letter was typed on the 16th of January and arrived in my office on February 9th. Small and medium businesses all across this country are spending incredible amounts of money on private courier services, in order to be able to manage their business efficiently and profitably. Waiting for Canada Post would be a disaster.

This is not an isolated incident, and the Minister responsible for Canada Post knows it. Taking 22 days for a parliamentary letter from Ottawa to arrive in Barrie is imbecilic. How then will employees of Canada Post find the time to perform additional duties on behalf of Consumers Distributing?

Canada Post has a mandate to move the mail, and until it manages to do so in a reasonable amount of time it should not be moving in on private enterprise in an unfair way. How much is Consumers Distributing paying for this service? How many more employees will the Post Office have to hire in order

to move the merchandise? Incidentally, Mr. Speaker, on what basis does Canada Post presume that it will be any more successful at this venture than it is at trying to move the mail? I urge the Minister to reconsider this shortsighted venture which is discriminatory to business.

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NATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAM

DEMAND FOR CONCENTRATION ON OIL SANDS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Mr. Jack Shields (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, direct investment by the present Government in high risk oil exploration on Canada Lands is a reckless waste of the taxpayers' money. One of the main goals of the National Energy Program was oil self-sufficiency by 1990. To date not one commercial oil discovery has been made on Canada Lands since the National Energy Program and a system of PIP grants was implemented.

The technology to bring oil to commercial production has yet to be developed. High risk exploration should be left to the major oil companies. Just over 35 years ago, major oil companies were spending millions of dollars on high risk exploration in western Canada, drilling hundreds of dry holes. Oil was finally found at Leduc.

Since that time, Mr. Speaker, many large Canadian companies have been developed because major foreign oil companies accepted the task of high risk exploration. If we are to reach oil self-sufficiency by 1990 or 1995, we should be concentrating on oil sands development. We have the technology, we have the resources, we know where the oil is, and we have the people who are trained to get the job done. Give Canadian companies the incentive to develop what we know we have; put Canadians back to work.

One oil sands mining operation creates thousands of jobs across Canada. Encourage the major oil companies to explore in the high risk areas of the Beaufort, Arctic, and offshore, which will create and sustain much needed economic activity—

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member's time has expired.

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BILINGUALISM

GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSAL AFFECTING YUKON AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): One of the most sensitive issues in Canada today is the extension of bilingual services. In Quebec and Manitoba court cases are proceeding because of the failure of the Legislatures to protect the rights of the minority. Confusion over this issue has been created by statements made during the Liberal leadership race, and by the lack of a clear signal from the present Government.