

S.O. 21

● (1410)

HUMAN RIGHTS**ABOLITION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA COMMISSION**

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands): Madam Speaker, the Social Credit Government of British Columbia has abolished the Human Rights Commission in that Province. As a result, women, handicapped people, ethnic and religious minorities have no protection against discrimination. Employers, landlords or business people can now carry personal prejudice over into public life without fear of punishment. Gordon Fairweather, head of the Canadian Human Rights Commission, and a former Member of this House, said "there will be an asterisk beside British Columbia, singling it out as a lesser place for human rights."

At a federal-provincial conference last week, Manitoba's Attorney General said that the British Columbia Government had delivered a "devastating blow to the cause of human rights in Canada". The Federal Minister of Justice (Mr. MacGuigan) pleaded with the British Columbia Government to reconsider its action. However, Tory Cabinet Ministers from five Conservative provincial governments held a special news conference to indicate that they would not condemn the British Columbia Government or its action. Provincial Tories have said that they will not speak up for human rights. Canadians now ask if the federal Conservatives will also keep silent rather than offend their ideological twins in the British Columbia Secreds. Conservative silence is the same as Secred consent.

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ASSASSINATION OF BENIGNO AQUINO**EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY TO CANADIANS OF FILIPINO ORIGIN**

Mr. Jesse P. Flis (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 21 to offer my most sincere sympathy to all Canadians of Filipino origin following the assassination of Benigno Aquino on August 21, 1983, as he was returning home to the Philippines after years of exile in the United States. The shock of this barbaric act was indeed felt throughout the world and still remains unexplained. President Ferdinand Marcos, in a broadcast responding to the incident, stated that he was also "deeply and profoundly shocked by what has happened".

The third largest ethno-cultural group represented in our constituency of Parkdale-High Park is comprised of loyal Canadians of Filipino origin. Therefore I would like to join with my constituents of Filipino descent in their sadness and anger over the death of this great man, and add my voice to the international deploremment of such an atrocity.

POLITICAL PARTIES**SUCCESS OF PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA BY-ELECTION**

Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock-North Delta): Madam Speaker, during the summer months the Government came under some criticism for its six and five program. I think that is rather unfortunate because it has had some stellar successes, if not sometimes unheralded, but nevertheless successes.

In the by-election in Mission-Port Moody, that by-election produced an increase in the size of the Conservative B.C. caucus of 6 per cent. In the process of producing that for our Conservative caucus, the Liberal vote fell to 5 per cent. That, Madam Speaker, is the best six and five program in all of Canada.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Friesen: That is the kind of six and five program that the entire country is waiting for, and we ask the Government to produce it.

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SHIPBUILDING**DECLINE IN SHIPYARD EMPLOYMENT**

Mr. Ray Skelly (Comox-Powell River): Madam Speaker, in spite of the Canadian frigate program, in spite of the shipbuilding special recovery projects, and in spite of the Government's shipbuilding policy, production and employment in Canadian shipyards is the lowest it has been in recorded history. This terrible situation can be laid squarely on the doorstep of the present Liberal Government, in particular of the Minister of State (Finance) (Mr. MacLaren) and the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Chrétien).

The Minister of State for Finance has failed to act expeditiously to place into law the Government's new shipbuilding policy, however weak that policy is, and has lost millions of dollars in shipbuilding contracts. The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, under the Petroleum Incentives Program, is quite prepared to pay up to 80 per cent of the costs of building and leasing offshore supply vessels and drilling platforms in foreign countries, while unprepared to pay the petroleum incentive grant for ships built in Canada.

There cannot be a dumber policy in Canadian history than one that would see Canadian taxpayers' money used as an incentive to build ships and drilling rigs in other countries. We pay billions to the Japanese to build our ships and rigs, while allowing our shipyard workers to live on unemployment insurance.