

● (1150)

Hon. Michel Côté (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Canada Post): Mr. Speaker, I think the Government has already shown its intention by tabling a document and dealing with the issue of integrity.

An Hon. Member: You did nothing.

Mr. Côté (Langelier): We have already had much discussion on the subject and we hope the committee will bring forward recommendations to give us good legislation.

Mr. Rodriguez: Horsefeathers.

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[Translation]

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

ESTABLISHMENT OF FRENCH EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION NETWORK IN ONTARIO

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Treasury Board. On December 4, 1984, the federal Minister of Communications, accompanied by the Minister responsible for TV Ontario at the time, announced an agreement to create a French-language educational television network in Ontario. The federal-provincial agreement signed on June 18, 1985 and worth \$30 million is a five-year agreement. The province is still waiting for the federal Government's financial contribution. Since June 18, the Minister of Communications has been silent, and it has been impossible to get to him. According to the provincial authorities, the federal Cabinet and the Minister are trying to get out of meeting their commitments. Why is the Government so reluctant? Why has it failed to keep its word?

Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I shall be glad to take this question as notice and discuss the matter with the Minister responsible. I will make sure that my hon. friend gets the correct explanation for the delay, if any, in implementing the agreement.

INQUIRY WHEN FUNDING WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, according to the agreement, the federal Government owes \$350,000 to the Province of Ontario now, and will owe \$2,350,000 next year. Getting a French-language educational television network in Ontario is important. The agreement was signed. Are we going to know when the money is going to be paid or do we have to send a collection agency?

Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I repeat, I am going to take these concerns as notice. I can inform the House that I agree this is an important matter, and I can assure my hon. colleague that he will get a

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reply, and that he need not go to the expense of hiring a collection agency at this time.

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[English]

SHIPBUILDING

MORATORIUM REQUESTED ON IMPORTATION OF VESSELS CONSTRUCTED ABROAD

Mr. Ernie Epp (Thunder Bay—Nipigon): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. The Minister is undoubtedly aware that most of the work being done in Canadian shipyards is Government work for the Coast Guard and the Navy and that commercial work is almost ended, leaving yards like the ones in Collingwood and Thunder Bay likely soon to be without work. Will the Minister give us his assurance that the Government will impose a moratorium on any imported vessels that may be required in the next year or two by Canadian shipping interests?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think the Hon. Member is aware that my colleague, the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion, is currently seized with the issue of the shipbuilding industry and is examining policy options to provide some stability and some security for the shipbuilding industry. I will certainly take the Hon. Member's representation and refer it to the Minister. I think that it would be fair to say a policy will be forthcoming in the very near future.

REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCE POLICY

Mr. Ernie Epp (Thunder Bay—Nipigon): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion has been seized with this question for a long, long time. I have heard that sort of promise time after time, as have people in the industry, and the workers continue to wait. When will the Government state a policy and end the agonizing state for the owners and workers in these yards across the country?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Minister of Transport): Yes, it is a situation that has been with us for quite some time, Mr. Speaker. It is a very serious situation, but instead of the Hon. Member simply pointing the finger at my hon. colleague, who is attempting to resolve the issue, if the Hon. Member could sit down with the Minister and provide some of his advice and wisdom, perhaps we might take that into consideration.

This issue has been going on for years and the Government is taking action.—

Mr. Althouse: What is it?

Mr. Mazankowski: In the meantime, contracts have been awarded recently that are going to serve the long-term interests of the shipbuilding industry. The rationalization