

S. O. 31

[Translation]

FORESTRY

Mr. Michel Champagne (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State (Forestry)): Mr. Speaker, on August 24, the federal Forestry Minister submitted a proposal for renewal of the forestry agreement to his Quebec counterpart.

Despite what was said by Ministers Rémillard and Côté, Forestry Canada is prepared to proceed immediately with negotiations on the agreement, and they need not worry about the availability of federal funding.

As far as our government is concerned, forests, and especially privately-owned forests in Quebec, are among our priorities.

We cannot afford to keep those who might benefit from this agreement waiting any longer. That is why I urge Ministers Rémillard and Côté to sit down and start negotiating. Everybody's time is precious.

Mr. Saint-Julien: Wake up, Quebec!

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[English]

THE BROCKVILLE INCIDENT

Mr. Jim Jordan (Leeds—Grenville): Mr. Speaker, Canadians who viewed the program entitled "The Brockville Incident" on *The Journal* this past week are finally in a position to judge fairly Brockville's flag burning episode that took place a year ago last September.

Until now, the event has been slanted and distorted, and generally misunderstood in many parts of Canada.

The entire incident illustrates how easy it is for a small group to get attention through the power of the media merely by using an unorthodox and unacceptable means to protest.

It also illustrates just how easy it is to pit one part of Canada against another, one Canadian against another. A country is much like many other things, Mr. Speaker. If you want it to work, it will but if you do not want it to work, you can usually find a cause that will promote its failure.

Let us hope that this program allowed Canadian viewers to finally judge what was to some Canadians a major cause of rift in international relations and internal relations, but was to most merely an isolated incident by a misguided few.

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[Translation]

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Gilles Rocheleau (Hull—Aylmer): Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Government of Quebec for amending its goods and services legislation to exempt books and publications from this tax. The Government of Quebec has acknowledged that culture is not taxable and confirmed its emphasis on developing our culture.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that the federal government, once its bill has been ratified by the Senate and has received royal assent, will immediately table an amendment to exempt books and publications from this tax, thus following the lead of the Government of Quebec.

Mr. Speaker, when will we be able to congratulate the federal government on having done so?

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FOCIQ 90

Mr. Marcel R. Tremblay (Québec—Est): Mr. Speaker, from November 15 to 18, 1990, the Olympic Stadium in Montreal will be the site of the first super trade and industry fair in Quebec. This event, called "FOCIQ 90" is being organized by the Quebec Chamber of Commerce together with its 230 affiliated chambers, in co-operation with Promexpo and with the collaboration of the federal and provincial governments.

Taking its inspiration from international trade fairs in Germany and Japan, FOCIQ 90 is intended to be the most impressive showcase for industry and trade in Quebec to date. Six different fairs will be set up under the same roof, to offer trade delegates from more than 40 foreign countries, 75,000 business men and women and 1,000 exhibitors endless opportunities for exchanging ideas. This event will include more than 180 lectures by ministers and prominent business people on subjects related to the the themes of the fair.