

S.O. 21

ment will take advantage of the opportunity to develop even closer relations with the Soviet Union, an even greater degree of understanding on our part, and help to promote an ever greater understanding on theirs.

Mr. Speaker: I seek to learn the disposition of the House. Normally at this point there would be three or four minutes left in the period for Statements under Standing Order 21. Should I assume that the House would like to have the regular amount of time for Statements under Standing Order 21, and Oral Questions?

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker, we are quite prepared to extend the time to allow full statements and the usual Question Period. Under the circumstances this seems fair and equitable.

● (1410)

Mr. Speaker: Does the Hon. House Leader for the Official Opposition agree?

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Therefore I will call for Statements pursuant to Standing Order 21.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

AGRICULTURE

CATTLE GRADING FEES

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry-Prescott-Russell): Mr. Speaker, on Black Thursday, November 8, the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) perpetrated his vicious attacks on the people of Canada when he presented his cut-back program.

One group who can least afford these cut-backs and increases in taxes and surcharges are the farmers of Canada. The Ontario Cattlemen's Association recently sent a letter to the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Wise) indicating to him that the fees for grading to be charged by the Government are excessive and unfair, and were implemented without consultation.

Although the Minister says that the fee will be 67 cents per head of cattle, he failed to indicate that the smaller meat processing plants will have to pay some \$125 service charge every time an inspector walks through the door.

The farmers involved in horticulture and other areas have also expressed strong disagreement with this measure.

Thanks to the previous Liberal Government, Canada had the best beef grading system in the world, and the Tories should not be allowed to dismantle it. The cattlemen of Glengarry-Prescott-Russell produce some 78,000 head of cattle. They are good productive farmers who only want a fair

chance to make an honest living. I ask the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Agriculture to repeal the introduction of grading fees in the interest of good agricultural practices for this country.

* * *

SPORTS

MEN'S CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP—NORTHERN ONTARIO RINK VICTORIOUS

Mr. Ernie Epp (Thunder Bay-Nipigon): Mr. Speaker, the *Times-News* in Thunder Bay this morning bore the headline "Switchman Derails Ryan's Express". This imaginative title aptly describes yesterday's victory by Thunder Bay's Al Hackner, a locomotive switchman, over Alberta's Pat Ryan, whose rink had curled 11 consecutive winning games at the Canadian men's curling championship in Moncton, New Brunswick.

The winning quartet of skip Hackner, third Rick Lang, second Ian Tetley, and lead Pat Perroud, came from behind in the tenth end after a brilliant shot by Hackner created a tie. They went on to win in a tie breaking 11th end after Ryan's last throw left Hackner's the shot rock. This gave Hackner's Northern Ontario foursome a six-five win over Alberta.

This is the fourth time Hackner has appeared in the Brier, and the second time he has won. He was runner-up in 1980 and 1981, and then won the Canadian and world championships in 1982.

The citizens of northwestern Ontario are extremely proud of these fine amateur athletes. As New Democratic spokesperson for amateur sport, and especially as the Member for Thunder Bay-Nipigon, I extend my best wishes to these very talented young men as they leave later this month to represent Canada at the Silver Broom in Scotland. I also look forward to seeing them at the Olympic Games in Calgary in 1988.

* * *

TRADE

IMPROPER LABELLING ON CLOTHING IMPORTS

Mr. Norman Warner (Stormont-Dundas): Mr. Speaker, I am most concerned about the amount of imported clothing that is not properly labelled and is being sold to Canadian consumers. In a five-month period, Customs and Excise inspected 30 per cent of the clothing shipments to Canada. One-third of the inspected shipments had inadequate or misleading labelling.

I have with me an example of this mislabelling. It states "Top quality hosiery—genuine wool 51 per cent, polyester 19 per cent, nylon 30 per cent". Laboratory tests indicate that there is no wool, no polyester, and no nylon in these socks. What are Canadian consumers buying? I don't know, and they don't know either. What we do know is that they are not buying what is described on the labels.