

## CROWN CORPORATIONS

### TELEGLOBE CANADA—OPPOSITION TO PRIVATIZATION

**Mrs. Sheila Finestone (Mount Royal):** Mr. Speaker, Teleglobe Canada recently tabled its annual report announcing a 1985 after-tax profit of 15.4 per cent. This is another wellfounded reason why the Government should reconsider its decision to divest. In its zeal to privatize the Government is dismantling a leading edge, high-tech communication service built by the Canadian taxpayer through proficient labour and management. Teleglobe's remittance to the federal Government will jump to \$80 million this year. Its revenue increased to \$678 million in 1985 and operating expenses dropped 1 per cent.

This side of the House will continue to pressure the Government for assurances that, if this unwise sale is to take place, Teleglobe Canada will remain totally Canadian owned, there will be no lessening of service or increased cost to consumers, the company will remain Montreal based, and the present employees' benefit package is guaranteed. Selling our only international communications network for a one shot charge against the federal deficit is shortsighted and poor management of our very precious public funds.

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● (1405)

## ROYAL CANADIAN MINT

### PRODUCTION AND PROFITABILITY

**Mr. Dave Nickerson (Western Arctic):** Mr. Speaker, with total revenues close to a billion dollars a year the Royal Canadian Mint is big business and contributes substantially to Canada's economy. Some 5 million ounces of gold are being refined annually, making the Canadian mint the third largest refinery in the world after the Soviet Union and South Africa.

Sales of the Maple Leaf bullion coin, 1.88 million ounces in 1985, are most successful, as are sales of numismatic coins and circulating coins for foreign countries.

The Mint has geared up for the production of the proposed \$1 Canadian circulating coin.

It is significant to note, Sir, that this year Canada will host the International Mint Directors Conference. This is the first time that this important event will be held outside Europe.

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## DISASTERS

### DESTRUCTION BY FLOODING OF CREE VILLAGE AT WINISK

**Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River):** Mr. Speaker, on Friday a flood destroyed the Cree Village of Winisk killing two

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people and leaving only seven buildings standing in a community that once counted 60.

This foreseeable tragedy in a village which is flooded more often in the spring than not, would not have occurred if the community's long planned relocation had been carried out already.

While we should be thankful for all the lives that were saved we should also be ashamed that this tragedy happened, since the best emergency planning cannot secure inherently unsafe situations. I therefore call upon the Government to act to help the Winisk band to build its new community this year.

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## HUMAN RIGHTS

### ETHIOPIA—RECORD NUMBER OF INFRACTIONS

**Mr. Reginald Stackhouse (Scarborough West):** Mr. Speaker, Ethiopia has the worst record on human rights in the world. That is the claim of a study of 120 countries published by *The Economist*. Ethiopia scored only 13 per cent, far behind the Soviet Union and even South Africa.

Ethiopia, for example, has over 10,000 political prisoners, some like Haile Selassie's family who have been held for over 10 years without even a charge. I am reliably informed that Berhanu Dinka, the Ethiopian Ambassador to the United States and Canada, recently made the mistake of going home and is now being held in detention.

With this kind of political tyranny and human rights record surely it behooves Canada to help. We have influence in Ethiopia. We have moved to help their hungry. Surely we could move to help their oppressed. Linking development to human rights would be a good start.

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[Translation]

## TRADE

### IMPORTANCE OF AMERICAN MARKET TO CANADA

**Mr. Guy St-Julien (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, for a number of months, the leaders of the Opposition parties and their Members have been doing everything in their power to try and scare Canadians. They brandish the spectre of unemployment before our workers, whenever we talk about increasing trade with the United States.

Mr. Speaker, the facts tell us otherwise. The United States is Canada's first trading partner and vice versa. Canadian-U.S. trade exceeded \$110 billion in 1984, making it the most important bilateral trading relationship in the world.