

## SPORTS

CANADIAN TEAM'S PARTICIPATION IN SOCCER'S WORLD CUP  
CHAMPIONSHIP

**Mr. Bob Pennock (Etobicoke North):** Mr. Speaker, Sunday marks a special day in the history of sports in Canada. For the first time Team Canada will begin its quest for soccer's World Cup in Mexico. Over the next month, 24 nations will compete for the right to be crowned world champion in Canada's fastest growing sport.

Just as this event is truly a world competition, the members of Team Canada truly reflect the multicultural flavour of Canada. On our starting squad we have Canadians of Italian, Scottish, Yugoslavian, German, and Czechoslovakian descent; players who hail from Victoria, Moncton, Nanaimo, Ottawa, and Edmonton. It is truly a Canadian team.

I am sure all Members of the House and all Canadians will join with me in expressing our best wishes to Team Canada.

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[Translation]

## FORESTRY

## MAPLE TREE BLIGHT—ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCIENTIFIC STUDY

**Mr. Maurice Tremblay (Lotbinière):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of State (Forestry) (Mr. Merrithew) announced recently that the Canadian Forestry Service has asked the *Centre de foresterie des Laurentides* to do a scientific study on the maple tree blight.

This study, another in a long series of efforts by the Service in this area, will be directed by Gilles Robitaille and Marcien Roberge, who have both been involved for many years in activities either directly or indirectly related to the phenomenon of maple tree blight in Quebec.

Research directly related to the problem of declining maple stands will be done mainly at the experimental maple farm at Noberville, in the riding of Lotbinière.

Mr. Speaker, I must congratulate the Minister on the kind of action he has taken, which again demonstrates his desire to deal with the problem once and for all and thus help a typically Canadian product and one of our major industries to continue to exist, especially considering the time and effort that goes into managing a maple stand, and preserve part of our heritage.

## S.O. 21

## SMALL BUSINESS

## GOVERNMENT POLICY

**Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard—Anjou):** Mr. Speaker, when the Conservatives were in the Opposition, they went on about reducing the paper burden on small businesses. As soon as they formed the Government, they amended the Small Business Loans Act to make it less accessible. It seems that banks are advising business people against taking advantage of this legislation because of the very strict directives of the Minister of State (Small Business) (Mr. Bissonnette) with respect to the administration of loans.

Mr. Speaker, since the new legislation came into effect, there has been a 25 per cent reduction in loans. When they were in the opposition, the Conservatives were against it, but now they are in power they are all for it.

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[English]

## THE PROFESSIONS

## TRIBUTE TO WORK OF CANADIAN ENGINEERS

**Mr. Paul Gagnon (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, the engineers in the House of Commons take great pleasure in joining our fellow engineers in drawing the attention of Canadians to the outstanding contribution our profession has made to the development of Canada.

The art and science of the engineer forged the technological foundations of our Confederation. Our early engineers built the network of railways, canals, and bridges. This expertise has continued to expand in aviation, telecommunications, and space systems. The 125,000 men and women who constitute Canada's professional engineering fraternity continue to contribute to the exploration and commercial exploitation of leading edge technologies, bringing technological progress and economic prosperity to Canada and other countries.

● (1405)

We trust that National Engineers Week will encourage Canadians to reflect on the sometimes heroic but often insufficiently recognized contribution of engineers to Canada's past, present, and future.

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## LABOUR RELATIONS

## AIR ONTARIO—FLIGHT ATTENDANTS' STRIKE

**Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville):** Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Airline Flight Attendant's Association is on strike against Air Ontario. Strikes are at best unpleasant events. They are the last resort very often of a collectivity of