

S. O. 21

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): I would like to advise the Member for Winnipeg—St. James (Mr. Minaker) that he will have an additional 10 minutes for debate when the House resumes Government Orders, which will be followed by a 10-minute period for questions and comments.

It being 1 p.m., I do now leave the Chair until 2 p.m. this day.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 21

[Translation]

IMMIGRATION

GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, one of the main reasons why Canadians have lost confidence in the Government is the inability of the Conservatives to keep the promises they made to the Canadian people.

Recently, the Canadian government staged a refugee immigration crisis and it tried to manipulate public opinion to make their situation even worse.

Immigrant refugees were used by the Conservatives for political reasons, like the debate on capital punishment. This kind of tactic is as irresponsible as their campaign promises.

The conservatives promised to give us a fair and equitable immigration policy, to introduce training programs to make immigration offices outside the country better informed, to help immigrants acquire a thorough knowledge of one of the official languages and to make Canadians more aware of our cultural mosaic.

Mr. Speaker, these actions and promises are an insult to the intelligence of Canadians, and I regret the Government having taken this position.

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[English]

HUMAN RIGHTS

U.S.S.R.—FATE OF JEWISH CITIZENS

Mr. Bill Attewell (Don Valley East): Mr. Speaker, yesterday, Mrs. Ida Milgrom, the 78 year old mother of Anatoly Shcharansky, visited Ottawa to urge politicians to increase the pressure on the U.S.S.R. to let people leave that country. Mrs.

Milgrom scoffed at Gorbachev's new policy of openness, or *glasnost* in Russian, because thousands of Jews have been waiting years to obtain their exit visas.

She asked for our specific help to free Ida Nudel, a long-time refusenik whose health is failing due to years of frustration and persecution.

Mrs. Milgrom also highlighted the struggle of refuseniks Lev and Inna Elbert who have been waiting 11 years for exit visas and who finally, out of despair and frustration, began a hunger strike on March 5.

Today we welcome over 100 Jewish students from across Canada from Network Canada and their President, Michael Zeldman. They are in the nation's capital to visit over 40 Members of Parliament to stress the desperate plight of thousands of refuseniks and prisoners of conscience in the U.S.S.R.

Regrettably, at this point in time *glasnost* remains a misleading, deceitful word, totally empty of substance and commitment.

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YOUTH

NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S POLICY

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, Canadian youth still await the Government's youth program, but they have not had to wait for New Democrats whose youth task force recommendations, formulated largely by youth, became our policy last weekend.

The Minister of State for Youth (Mr. Charest) consumes himself in defensiveness over the not so *Hot 100*. He is now joined by the Hon. Member for Nanaimo—Alberni (Mr. Schellenberg). This is the handbook which claims to list 100 programs, services, and resources financed by the feds for youth.

All the hot and angry letters to me from the Minister or statements in the House will not change the fact that too many of the programs listed in the booklet, in an effort to make the Government look good, are neither financed by the feds nor designed specifically for youth.

The Hon. Member for Nanaimo—Alberni was right about one thing—New Democrats support Canadian culture to which honesty, especially for youth, is fundamental.

The Government promised a youth policy, and promised and promised and promised, and a broken promise is a form of dishonesty. If the Government wants something really hot, we have something to warm even a hard Tory heart—the New Democratic Party youth policy.