

We can only hope that when it comes to the many remaining items on the Canadian environmental agenda, the Tories will show more sensitivity to public support for environmental protection than they have when it comes to wildlife and national park planning. What about the promise they made during the election to make environmental impact assessment something required by law? Or will this conflict with the Deputy Prime Minister's (Mr. Nielsen) joint study team on regulatory program review, which has been asked to evaluate environmental programs primarily on the basis of whether they directly or indirectly constitute an obstacle to economic development or job creation?

Since that is obviously the case with some environmental programs, at least insofar as traditional forms of exploitative economic development are concerned, one can only conclude that the worst is not yet over. The Tories, like the Romans who persecuted Saint Paul because Christianity was putting the idol makers out of business, use the rhetoric of job creation to cover the fact that what they are really concerned about is the well-being of that idolatry represented by the values of the market-place, a form of sanctified self-seeking that has already done enough to creation, both human and non-human—

Mr. Speaker: I regret to advise the Hon. Member that his time has expired.

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[Translation]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Richard Grisé (Chambly): Mr. Speaker, on April 1 in the riding of Chambly, a group of business people from a number of municipalities that are particularly affected by unemployment have opened a door to job creation. Thanks to the program set up by the Department of Employment and Immigration, these men and women who, like the present Government, are aware of Canada's economic development needs, have set up an industrial and business recovery fund.

The new LEAD company will receive more than \$2 million in financial assistance over the next five years. This recovery fund will be a source of risk capital, to be used not only to help existing businesses but also to attract new businesses that will create more than 50 permanent jobs in three communities in the riding of Chambly.

Mr. Speaker, by maintaining programs similar to the LEAD Program, the Progressive Conservative Government is clearly showing it is anxious to deal with employment problems in Canada, Quebec and more specifically in the riding of Chambly.

[English]

S.O. 21

AGRICULTURE

CALL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF AGRI-BOND PROGRAM

Mr. Elliott Hardey (Kent): Mr. Speaker, many of my constituents in the riding of Kent feel that the Farm Credit Corporation may never function properly or become the main lender of farm credit again unless an agri-bond or similar program can be developed and legislated. I realize the efforts which many are making to bring this about, and I call on all Members of this House not only to encourage this action but to encourage its expediency.

But there is another very important and immediate problem to be addressed in the farm community, and the Farm Credit Corporation holds the key to the solution. The problem is this. How do we deal with the many questionable bankruptcies facing many of our most aggressive and efficient farmers, in other words, the farmers we cannot afford to lose?

A recent special review board has indicated that many of these farmers may still be viable even though their net worth has shrunk due to decreasing land prices. The same escalated land prices that were involved improperly in the lending of dollars are now involved improperly, due to devalued land prices, in the "unlending", if I may use that word, of the same dollars.

I call on the agency to be less rigid and to be the first to waive one-half of the actual dollars it estimates it will lose when it forces a bankruptcy sale. I believe the banking industry is ready to follow this course and is watching closely for the initiative to be taken by the FCC. With that action, this sensitive issue could be resolved sooner, and even the taxpayer would benefit.

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[Translation]

IMMIGRATION

TREATMENT OF APPLICANTS FOR REFUGEE STATUS

Mrs. Lucie Pépin (Outremont): Mr. Speaker, when we mentioned the occurrences at Toronto detention centre for persons claiming refugee status a few weeks ago, the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Miss MacDonald) referred the matter to the Standing Committee on Labour, Employment and Immigration.

The House will recall that the RCMP questioned prospective refugees without the benefit of a lawyer or adviser. There was also a problem about the lack of information given these people on assistance available from humanitarian and professional agencies.

Mr. Speaker, the committee must now discuss how its members are to conduct their investigation. The Committee on Transport and Communications was allowed to travel far and wide, but it seems there are no funds left for the Committee on