

## S. O. 21

## IMMIGRATION

## ADMISSION OF FAMILY CLASS IMMIGRANTS

**Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina):** Mr. Speaker, the cornerstone of Canadian immigration policy is the family which assists an immigrant to adapt to Canada and strengthens our country with natural social ties. For many years Canadians have called for a more flexible definition of the family. Many feel painfully deprived when our immigration rules bar all but spouse, aged parents, and minor children.

In 1985 the New Democratic Party convention supported immigration by "all close family members including all children". In 1986 the Standing Committee on Labour, Employment and Immigration tabled in Parliament unanimous recommendations to enlarge our idea of the family in immigration. It asked for a new classification of "assisted family" to include children or siblings of any age, married or unmarried, more points for close family relationship, and no absolute bar based on employment.

In October the Minister of State for Immigration (Mr. Weiner) said he would open up discussion on assisted family class. I call on him to begin that discussion now so that we may have new rules by the end of 1987.

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## ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

## PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT—CONTENT OF DRAFT LEGISLATION

**Mr. Andrew Witer (Parkdale—High Park):** Mr. Speaker, Canadians are well aware of the importance of environmental issues to the future quality of life in Canada and on this planet. Residents of Parkdale—High Park feel especially close to these issues. Our proximity to Lake Ontario and the Humber River has made us particularly sensitive to water quality concerns, and we worry about the long term effects of acid rain, PCBs, and whether the absorption of lead from automobile exhausts will have hazardous consequences for our children.

The draft legislation introduced recently by the Minister of the Environment (Mr. McMillan) takes a realistic and positive approach to the control of toxic chemicals, sets standards for environmental protection, and takes substantial steps toward addressing the problems of air, land and water quality, providing a blueprint for a better tomorrow.

I urge my colleagues to take this opportunity to work with the Minister to ensure that these proposals become legislative fact, and I invite all Members to join the Government in our fight to protect and enhance the quality of life for future generations.

## CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF LAY-OFFS

**Mr. Russell MacLellan (Cape Breton—The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, Mr. Derek Rance, President of the Cape Breton Development Corporation, on November 26, 1985, said that while coal operations must become more viable, this would not be done at the expense of workers. Seventeen men who are employed at the international coal piers in my riding have been told that their jobs will be terminated by April. They will be added to another 17 who have been laid off indefinitely. Each one of these men has 10 or more years with the Corporation. They have homes and families and have invested a considerable part of their lives in Devco and Cape Breton.

Devco is also proposing to lay off a further 240 people this year and 240 next year. The Government, while claiming to have created hundreds of jobs on Cape Breton Island, is in fact removing thousands. Mr. Rance is operating on instructions from the Government, and these directions should be changed. Lay-offs should not be happening at Devco particularly in light of the recent statements by the Minister of Mines and Energy for Nova Scotia that Nova Scotia would require one million tonnes of additional coal in the future.

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● (1410)

## CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

## REQUIREMENT FOR MODERN EQUIPMENT

**Mr. Terry Clifford (London—Middlesex):** Mr. Speaker, I recently had the pleasure and honour of visiting 312 of my Armed Forces constituents who are stationed at Lahr and Baden Soligen, West Germany. What was so apparent everywhere I visited was the high esteem in which all Canadian Armed Forces personnel are held. What could easily be overlooked, however, is the reputation that Canadian technology is earning. Our research and development, our innovative training installations and programs, and our reputation with NATO countries already training at Goose Bay are just a few examples of this.

We must continue this reputation and we must insist that Canadian industries remain leaders in state-of-the-art equipment required by Canada and other NATO countries. The leaders in this regard will undoubtedly be the fine industries in the riding of London—Middlesex.