

S. O. 21

Mr. Rodriguez: Even after implementing this, he never took seriously the need to reform that emergency Act.

Mr. Caccia: Look at the Charter. He brought in the Charter.

An Hon. Member: Order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Before I call it one o'clock, the Hon. Member will have 15 minutes, plus 10 minutes for questions and comments.

The Hon. Member for Cape Breton—The Sydneys on a point of order.

Mr. MacLellan: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Rodriguez) seems to be getting away with a lot of innuendoes. He made an inference that former Prime Minister Trudeau let everyone believe that he was seriously interested and seriously concerned. I want to know from the Hon. Member for Nickel Belt if he really doubts the sincere concern that Mr. Trudeau had at that time.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The Hon. Member may wish to put that question during 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

[English]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

ACID RAIN—HELSINKI PROTOCOL—CALL FOR UNITED STATES SIGNATURE

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, instead of using metaphors on acid rain the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) should be to the point with President Reagan and make Canada's position clear once and for all, namely, that the U.S. Government should sign the Helsinki Protocol as 21 other nations have done so as to join in the global effort to cut SO₂ pollution by at least 30 per cent by 1993 based on 1980 emission levels, and that the United States Government should, by 1994, cut sulphur pollution by 50 per cent using 1980 as a base year.

The Prime Minister should also ask the President of the United States to explain why only one per cent of the \$5 billion Clean Coal Technology Program announced in 1986 has so far been spent.

Finally, the Prime Minister should notify the President of the United States that the Government of Canada will seek yearly compensation payments for the damage caused by transboundary air pollution, beginning with compensation for damage to our maple syrup farmers who have already started to quantify their yearly damage.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DESTRUCTION OF AMAZON RAIN FORESTS

Mr. John Ostrom (Willowdale): Mr. Speaker, major development projects in Third World nations are threatening our planet's future. In Brazil the rain forests are being decimated daily. The Polonoroeste Project has been responsible for the destruction of an area of the Amazon forests the size of Great Britain. The Carajas Project threatens to destroy another 58,000 square miles of rain forests in just three years. That is the same area as our Maritime provinces.

Destruction of rain forests, which provide the majority of the world's oxygen supply, is continuing on the same scale in other nations. Since the majority of these projects are funded by the World Bank, and since Canadian taxpayers provide one-third of a billion dollars through the World Bank via our Government, we must use this opportunity to voice our concerns over the destruction of the environment. Canada must assume a leadership role or we can become unwilling accomplices to an environmental disaster which will envelop our planet.

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INCOME TAX
NORTHERN RESIDENTS TAX ALLOWANCE

Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) must not persist in trying to side-step the growing protest from many remote areas of the country against the inequitable application of the Northern Residents Tax Allowance. Things have reached such a pass in my riding, for example, that the Fort Frances Chamber of Commerce has retained a lawyer to prepare a legal case against the Minister for his Department's misguided action in denying the allowance to Fort Frances residents while extending it to all the adjacent communities.

Meanwhile, the Minister has refused to meet with several elected leaders of affected communities, leading 12 of them to sign an invitation to him which, 10 days after delivery, still awaits a reply.

Meanwhile, the Parliamentary Secretary appeared at the adjournment proceedings to advise, again, that a review commission will be appointed "soon". Well, Mr. Speaker, how