

S.O. 21

Development Fund is welcome news only in the sense that it could have been worse. For the independent producers, whose work had dried up thanks to the CBC pulling out of the fund, the news means new contracts will be signed, work will go ahead, and they will stay in business instead of going bankrupt. But is this good enough? The decision shows the shortsightedness of the Government's cut-backs to the CBC last fall. Were it not for those cut-backs, the crisis in production would not have happened in the first place.

The Minister has used the opportunity to advance his own ideological agenda, an agenda never discussed in the election campaign, and contrary to Conservative promises made in the election campaign last summer. Government funding is moving away from the public sector, and government funding is moving away from the arm's length agencies. However, will there be any increase in good Canadian TV production? Unfortunately, that seems unlikely. The Minister has not put any more money into the pot.

Even with Telefilm Canada back in business now, with the ongoing CBC cut-backs over-all production will be down. The Minister's flying around the country in executive jets has not resulted in any cultural policies for our country that will fly. I suggest the Minister would be better advised, and our tax money better spent, if he would stay at home for a while—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The Hon. Member's time has expired.

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[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANADA-UNITED STATES RELATIONS

Mr. François Gérin (Mégantic-Compton-Stanstead): Mr. Speaker, Saturday, before leaving Washington to go to Quebec City, Mr. Reagan—the President of the United States—declared that there was no country that was more important to the United States than Canada, and that relations with Canada were better than ever. He went on to say that the Prime Minister of Canada (Mr. Mulroney) was an energetic and effective defender of Canadian interests and a firm friend of the United States.

Sunday, all Canadians could see for themselves, either on television or on the spot in Quebec City, how relaxed relations are now between Canada and the United States. The Canadian and international press commented that the conditions for restoring harmonious relations between our two countries are now in place and that Canada can already start reaping the benefits. Canadians are all proud of their Prime Minister and they congratulate him.

[English]

THE ADMINISTRATION

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry-Prescott-Russell): Mr. Speaker, I have been constantly attacking the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) for not keeping campaign promises to the Canadian people. Today I stand in this House to apologize. There is one promise that he made on May 24, 1983, and that he kept word for word, when he said:

There'll be jobs for Liberals and NDPs too after I have been Prime Minister for 15 years and I can't find a living, breathing Tory in the country.

On a daily basis since September 4 he has been appointing Tories, right, left, and centre, over a thousand of them. The criteria for appointments are simple: just be a Tory. Qualifications—who needs them?

The Prime Minister said he would appoint Liberals and NDPs after he was Prime Minister for 15 years. At the rate he's going now, he will run out of Tories in six months. The way he has been running the Government, I'm certain he realizes that he lacks the qualities needed to lead this country. He will not be around in 15 years, so he has to appoint them all in the first four years. Those are the only four years he will be in power.

The people of this country need jobs, jobs, jobs, not just jobs for Tories who are appointed by the Prime Minister.

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SHIPBUILDING

SQUARE RIGGER PROJECT—SPIRIT OF CANADA

Mr. Patrick Crofton (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, Members of the House will recall the assembly of tall ships at the bicentennial celebrations in Quebec city last year. Regrettably, we had no Canadian tall ship of our own to participate. Thus it gives me great pleasure to advise the House about an exciting national project which is presently under way on the West Coast to correct this deficiency. A group of eminent Canadians from coast to coast has established the Pacific Tall Ship Association. This charitable, non-profit association, intends to build and operate Canada's first ocean going square rigger. The ship will be called the *Spirit of Canada*, and will primarily serve as a training vessel for young Canadians.

The proposed ship will be a steel hulled three-masted barque of approximately 130 feet, and will have the capacity to train 1,000 young Canadians annually. Fund raising is, of course, the major concern at this time since the group hopes to have the ship built and ready for Expo '86 in Vancouver. This project is widely supported by many Canadians. I, therefore, urge all Members of this House to support this very worthwhile project so that Canada's colours will be flown proudly wherever the *Spirit of Canada* travels on the high seas.