

S.O. 21

ployment Insurance Act to improve maternity benefits and, for the first time, payments will be available to adoptive parents.

While serious problems remain to be addressed and there is still much to be done, all women should feel both proud and encouraged by the initiatives already taken by this Government.

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NATIONAL SECURITY

THE CASE OF HUGH HAMBLETON—UNRESOLVED ISSUES

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada (Mr. MacGuigan) said in the House on Friday, in answer to a question of mine, that as far as the Government was concerned the Hambleton spy case was closed. How can the Minister take such a stand when the account of that espionage operation on behalf of the KGB, which lasted some 30 years, as set out in Leo Heap's recent book, entitled quite simply "Hugh Hambleton, Spy", outlines a number of unresolved issues?

● (1410)

For instance, was the Canadian Solicitor General (Mr. Kaplan) correct in denying that an offer of immunity from prosecution was ever made to Hambleton by Canadian authorities, when evidence that such an offer had been made is on the record of the trial in Britain, as brought out by the British Attorney General who was prosecuting the case? Or was the Canadian Solicitor General suggesting that the British Attorney General was dealing with tainted, or even falsified, evidence?

Here is another unresolved issue. Why did the Government not bring this case to trial in Canada under a law similar to the one under which Hambleton was tried in Britain? Who, in this Government, was sheltering a spy? Who was it that warned Hambleton, not once but twice, not to go to Britain or, having gone there, to turn around and fly back to Canada? Who did that, and why? Who is responsible for bungling this espionage case involving—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member's time is up.

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IMMIGRATION

HUNGER STRIKE BY POLISH IMMIGRANTS SEEKING EXIT VISAS FOR FAMILIES IN HOMELAND

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, ten Canadian residents of Polish origin have been outside the Polish consulate in Toronto for 17 days on a hunger strike. They are all weak, anxious, and tired, but remain determined to achieve their objective—reunification with their families. They have applied for family reunification under the joint Canadian-Polish program, and the families of four of these men have received negative replies for exit visas from Polish

authorities. Our Department of External Affairs had promised these individuals some action by Monday or Tuesday of this week, causing some additional anxiety as these days slipped by without movement on the part of the Department of External Affairs or the Polish Government.

It is with deep regret that I must express my disappointment and that of my Party, the New Democratic Party, at the continued violation by the Polish Government of one of the most basic human rights—freedom of movement. With calculated cynicism some Polish citizens are virtually blackmailed into leaving their homeland, while others are held to ransom. I hope the Polish Government will rectify this state of affairs in the future, and I urge that the Department of External Affairs redouble its efforts and press its representations to the Polish Government on this very tragic human drama.

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[Translation]

FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY

SUPPRESSION OF QUOTAS—CONSEQUENCES FOR PROVINCE OF QUEBEC—NECESSITY TO TAKE IMMEDIATE MEASURES

Mr. Normand Lapointe (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, the ministers concerned, are certainly aware that import quotas in the shoe manufacturing industry will be lifted as of November 1984. This industry plays a major role in the economy of my riding, because of the great many jobs it provides for both men and women. Several plant owners are already worrying about what will become of them after the quotas are lifted.

On behalf of this industry which is a major source of revenues for Canada, I wish to make Cabinet ministers aware of this situation and ask them to meet with the representatives of the Canadian shoe manufacturing industry and listen to what they have to say concerning shoe imports. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues will certainly agree with me that we had better act quickly to avert the problems we experienced two years ago.

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[English]

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

SUGGESTED PROCLAMATION IN 1984

Mr. Bill Yurko (Edmonton East): Mr. Speaker, permit me to cite a proclamation made by the President of the United States of America in the first month of 1983. I read the President's words:

Now therefore, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Thursday, May 5, 1983, "National Day of Prayer". I call upon every citizen of this great nation to gather together on that day in homes and places of worship to pray, each after his or her own manner, for unity of the hearts of all mankind.