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FOREIGN AID

Mrs. Christine Stewart (Northumberland): Mr. Speaker, although Canadians across this nation are suffering from the present recession, which is affecting hundreds of thousands of families very personally, many of us can still acknowledge how fortunate we are in comparison to the populations of a growing number of countries, including Iraq, Sudan, Ethiopia and Bangladesh. Canadians realize that we must put our own house in order, but at the same time our tradition does not allow us to turn our backs on those in great need in other lands.

• (1410)

Our government very quickly found additional funds to wage war in the Middle East, yet today it is running out of funds for emergency relief, reconstruction and rehabilitation for millions of individuals living in apocalyptic circumstances, many of them victims of the war we helped wage. Fortunately, the war ended relatively quickly, leaving Canadian war commitments unused. I ask the Government of Canada to reallocate these funds to CIDA to be used to relieve the famine and misery of those countries in such dire need today so that the development funds of CIDA can be used, as budgeted, to meet the pressing needs of global poverty alleviation, environmental degradation and population explosion.

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THAMES BEND FARMS

Mr. Felix Holtmann (Portage—Interlake): Mr. Speaker, today thousands of Canadian hog farmers are producing the world's top quality pork and superior genetic breeding stock.

This standard of excellence and the millions of dollars returned to Canada's economy can be attributed to elite farmers such as Richard and Warren Stein, owners of Thames Bend Farms of Tavistock, Ontario.

On this past April 12, provincial leaders, six members of Parliament, including the Deputy Prime Minister, plus 1,000 invited guests, celebrated the 25th anniversary of this dynamic family farm and the outstanding achieve-

ments in quality swine production and world wide exports.

Warren Stein said, and I quote:

We are proud to be Canadians and share with you the Canadian dream. I know of no other place in the world that would have allowed us to do what we have done. Starting from a vision of serving our fellow man and contributing something of worth to society, twenty five years ago we, by using Canadian technology and with the help of you, our friends gathered here this evening, have reached this milestone in our business.

I will be most happy if at this evening's end we can openly thank God for giving us the Canadian opportunity and the pride that goes with it.

What a tremendous Canadian.

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NATIONAL UNITY

Mr. J.W. Bud Bird (Fredericton—York—Sunbury): Mr. Speaker, there is one small paragraph in the throne speech that I believe is more powerful for current times than any other. I am referring to those words which emphasize that the cause of national unity and the mission for national prosperity are inextricably interlocked and interdependent.

Yet, that statement conveys realities which are so obvious we frequently take them for granted.

Clearly, we must face the facts that unity and prosperity do go together in Canada's future. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the Atlantic provinces. We are critically dependent there upon a strong and unified country to ensure that we share in the quality of life available to all Canadians. Any breakdown in Canadian unity will be devastating for prosperity in Atlantic Canada.

Conversely, however, the assurance of a unified country provides unique motivation for the entrepreneurial skills of Atlantic Canadians and strengthens their desire to contribute more fully to their own prosperity and to the well-being of the nation.

Unity does spawn prosperity and prosperity does strengthen unity.

That is the message, Mr. Speaker, that we must deliver to every Canadian.