

## S. O. 31

means a society kept in isolation by the Indonesian government.

The Canadian government's record on East Timor is disgraceful. It has voted against United Nations resolutions calling for the right to self-determination for the people of East Timor. It has lobbied to have the issue removed from the UN Human Rights Commission agenda.

It is hardly coincidental that Canada is the third largest foreign investor in Indonesia and that the Canadian government seeks to expand its economic relations with that country.

We cannot change what has happened on December 7 in history, but we can make December 7, 1989 the day the Canadian government adopts the correct, humane policy on East Timor, the day it puts human rights ahead of greed.

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[Translation]

## AGRICULTURE

**Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out that this weekend, December 10 to 12, a national agriculture conference will be held in Ottawa.

The theme of the conference is "Growing Together: a vision for the Canadian agri-food industry". Leaders of farm organizations, the federal and provincial governments and all the major interest groups will be able to exchange ideas on the big issues affecting the Canadian agri-food sector.

This conference is an important step in the development of a new national policy.

We must meet the challenges and take the opportunities for growth that will come our way in the 1990s and beyond.

"Growing Together: a vision for the Canadian agri-food industry" augurs well for productive discussions that will determine the future of Canadian farming. I invite all farmers in my riding to take part in this important conference.

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## MISSIONARY IN NEW FRANCE

**Mr. Marcel R. Tremblay (Québec-Est):** Mr. Speaker, on December 1, I had the privilege of attending the launching of *Missionnaires en Nouvelle-France*, a new comic strip. The date coincides with the 350th anniversary of the arrival of Father Chaumonot in Canada, with

the first Augustine and Ursuline nuns. The launching took place at the Ancienne-Lorette church in my riding, on the site of the Notre-Dame-de-Lorette Chapel built in 1674 by Father Chaumonot.

Pierre-Joseph-Marie Chaumonot, companion of the Canadian Martyrs, was ordained a priest and came to New France in 1639. For fifty years he worked among the Amerindians, mainly among the Hurons around the Great Lakes, on l'île d'Orléans and finally at Ancienne-Lorette. *Missionnaires en Nouvelle-France*, published by Anne Sigier, pays tribute to this historic figure, with an excellent text by Gilles Drolet of Ancienne-Lorette and Drawings of Paul Rioux, an excellent illustrator and cartoonist. I am reminded of our motto in Quebec: "Je me souviens".

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[English]

## EAST TIMOR

**Mrs. Christine Stewart (Northumberland):** Mr. Speaker, to corroborate the remarks of our colleague from Winnipeg—Transcona I would like to tell the House that today marks the anniversary of the illegal invasion of East Timor by Indonesian troops.

East Timor at that time had just become an independent colony of Portugal. An island inhabited by an indigenous population of 700,000 with a rich cultural tradition, it is also rich for its natural resources.

The resultant annexation of East Timor by Indonesia only came after the slaughter of 200,000 of its indigenous population and the imposition of policies which continue to destroy East Timor's cultural traditions.

The Canadian government is out of step with other western countries and the United Nations in not participating in actions against Indonesia. The reason appears to be the very high level of economic investment and trade that Canada has been developing with Indonesia. We would address East Timor human rights abuses at the peril of losing important trade and economic benefits.