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adequate support for volunteer work in Canada. Recognition is not just setting aside one week a year. It also means providing material, physical and financial support, 12 months out of 12, to maintain our voluntary organizations.

Mr. Speaker, in concluding, I want to salute all volunteer workers during this special week, and I would urge all Canadians to show their appreciation.

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[English]

THE ECONOMY

INCREASE IN RATE OF GROWTH

Mr. Dave Nickerson (Western Arctic): Mr. Speaker, thanks to the progressive market oriented and financially sound policies of the Conservative Government, Canada's economy continues to forge ahead toward new record levels.

Latest Statistics Canada figures indicate a solid growth rate of 4 per cent for the first quarter. Leading the rebound have been the housing and auto industries. First quarter results show annualized housing starts at 237,000, up 11 per cent from the last quarter of 1986.

Employment grew at an annual rate of 3.2 per cent between January and March, and between September and March alone nearly 200,000 full-time jobs have been created.

These impressive figures demonstrate what can happen when Canadians roll up their sleeves and start working in concert with a Government which is truly deserving of their well placed confidence.

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WINTER OLYMPICS

OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY—OMISSION OF LABRADOR FROM ROUTE

Hon. William Rompkey (Grand Falls—White Bay—Labrador): Mr. Speaker, the people of Labrador are not being allowed to participate in the Olympic Torch Relay which is to begin the trek to Calgary this fall starting in St. John's. This is a disgraceful situation.

● (1410)

The torch will be carried all across the country and to other distant and northerly points including Whitehorse, Inuvik, and Yellowknife. Yet the Olympic torch relay will not even come close to Labrador, a very important and large part of the Province of Newfoundland, a land mass of 259,000 square kilometres and occupied by over 30,000 people. It is my belief that the people of Labrador should have a part in this and that

the torch should begin its journey in Labrador. How otherwise can it be called a national event?

The Government of Canada must step in and ensure that plans for the Olympic Torch Relay are revised to include Labrador and that Labradorians must be allowed to "Share the Flame".

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WORKERS' DAY OF MOURNING

RECOGNITION OF VICTIMS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

Mr. Bill Tupper (Nepean—Carleton): Mr. Speaker, April 28 has been declared an annual day of mourning in recognition of the many Canadian workers who have been killed or disabled in industrial related accidents.

I had the privilege two years ago to be present in Sudbury with my colleague, the Hon. Member for Lachine (Mr. Layton), at an early workers' memorial service in memory of miners who lost their lives as a result of a rockburst underground at the Falconbridge mine.

April 28 is a significant date because on that date in 1914 the first worker safety legislation in Canada was enacted by the Province of Ontario.

Earlier today a monument to commemorate workers was unveiled at Vincent Massey Park in Ottawa near the site of one of Canada's worst industrial accidents, the collapse of the Heron Road Bridge in 1966.

Our industrial and construction workers have and will continue to play an essential role in the growth and development of Canada. I ask all my colleagues and all Canadians to join today in recognizing their contribution.

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TAX REFORM

HANDICAPPED TAXPAYER'S NON-DEDUCTIBLE EXPENSES

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I wish to quote from another letter about our tax system. This time it is from a concerned citizen in Ottawa:

Thanks to our equitable tax system, out of a salary of \$14,946.61, \$2,358.40 is taken for tax, while those persons making far in excess of this amount pay no, or very little tax due to their fortunate position of having numerous tax write-offs.

Due to a physical handicap (cerebral palsy) shoes alone cost me in excess of \$700 per year which cannot be claimed.

I found living in a five foot by 8 foot room detrimental to my mental health and so have moved to a one bedroom apartment, cost \$550 per month.

ParaTranspo costs in excess of \$500 per year (Thank God there is such a thing).

As can be seen, there is not much chance of me being able to save for a time which in future may possibly see me in total physical handicapped situation . . .