

*S. O. 31*

the issue and bring forward an affordable pension plan for the members of this House.

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**POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby—Kingsway, NDP):** Mr. Speaker, today joining us in the House of Commons are some 40 students from Concordia University who represent the views of Concordia students, faculty and staff in strongly opposing the changes in post-secondary education funding proposed by this government.

I join in condemning these unfair measures and call on the government to stop fighting the deficit on the backs of students and workers, particularly women, people with disabilities and visible minorities, and instead close tax loopholes for the wealthy and corporations, lower interest rates and put people back to work.

The Minister of Finance can set a personal example by ensuring that CSL Steamship Lines Inc. hires Canadian mariners with Canadian standards to crew vessels built in Canada and subsidized by Canadian taxpayers. Instead, six of these vessels are registered in the Bahamas using cheap labour and substandard conditions.

Finally, let us make sure that we fully fund post-secondary education in this country and strengthen social programs, not weaken and attack them.

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**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Mr. Ted McWhinney (Vancouver Quadra, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, in recognizing the principle of no new taxes, we should also recognize that continued investment in advanced scientific and technological research, oriented toward industrial production and export abroad, particularly in information science and biotechnology in which Canada is a world leader today, is one of the keys to improving Canada's revenues and trade balance, thus increasing employment and reducing the deficit.

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**TAXATION**

**Mr. Gurbax Singh Malhi (Bramalea—Gore—Malton, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, I have received hundreds of letters from concerned constituents of Bramalea—Gore—Malton, all demanding no new taxes.

My constituents want the government to reduce the deficit and eliminate duplication of services. People want the government to create a climate beneficial to economic growth. They want more support for small business.

Ordinary Canadians would like tax loopholes to be closed, government spending reduced, and MPs' pensions brought into line.

● (1410)

I urge my fellow members to support the government in these worthwhile objectives.

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[Translation]

**DOUGLAS WARNOCK**

**Mr. Raymond Lavigne (Verdun—Saint-Paul, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, we may be living in a selfish world, but a ray of hope shone over my riding of Verdun—Saint-Paul during the Christmas recess.

I refer to a local hero, Douglas Warnock, and I do not use the term lightly. On January 8, Mr. Warnock dove into the icy waters of the St. Lawrence River to haul a young mother and her daughter back to safety. When he got out of the water, he was told about another young girl, unconscious and floating downstream. He dove back in and brought her to shore.

Shivering and freezing, Mr. Warnock went back to the Verdun yacht club to warm up, leaving the victims to be cared for by others in the crowd that had gathered. Today, that mother, her daughter and her friend are alive thanks to this man's bravery.

[English]

I ask all Canadians to join me in thanking Mr. Warnock for giving us hope by demonstrating that there are still people who care enough for others.

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[Translation]

**ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE**

**Mr. François Langlois (Bellechasse, BQ):** Mr. Speaker, in March 1994, the Federal Court's Appeal Division ruled that by refusing to pay members of the RCMP a bilingualism bonus since 1977, the Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police had acted unlawfully.

In other words, the commissioner had been acting unlawfully for more than 17 years. Today, members of the RCMP demonstrated on Parliament Hill to claim a fundamental right already enjoyed by other employees in the federal public service: the right to form a union. Members of provincial and city police forces already have that right.

Members of the RCMP see this as a way to stop this abuse of power by the RCMP commissioner, who is their employer and, as far as their grievances are concerned, is both judge and jury. It would be in the best interests of Canada to have an open RCMP, where police officers can do a good job and enjoy full recognition of their basic rights.