

S. O. 21

● (1405)

Cape Bretoners are being told that if they want jobs, they must take them at any price, and that clean air and the amenities other parts of the country take for granted do not apply to industrial Cape Breton.

I want the Government to state emphatically today that coal will not be stockpiled in the Whitney Pier area of Sidney at any time unless there are safeguards agreed to by the residents of the Whitney Pier area, and that the decision of the Cape Breton Development Corporation to stockpile be immediately overturned by the federal Government.

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[Translation]

TRADE

FREE TRADE WITH UNITED STATES—NEED TO PROTECT
CANADIAN INTERESTS

Mr. Clément M. Côté (Lac-Saint-Jean): Mr. Speaker, as everyone knows, the negotiations to sign a free-trade agreement have reached a critical point.

However, at this stage more than ever, I want to reaffirm the need for such an agreement between Canada and the United States since another American bill is threatening Canadian exports. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, the Canadian pulp and paper industry is now the target of the protectionist attacks of Congress.

When we know that the pulp and paper sector, which includes the related industries in the Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean region, exported for \$33.6 million of products in 1986, it is easy to realize the importance of such an agreement. If no agreement is signed, a region such as the one I represent would suffer heavy economic consequences which the other sectors of our regional economy would have difficulty to compensate.

Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Government wants to preserve the economy of our regions and to protect a large number of industrial sectors, and this is why we shall fight to the end to bring the Americans to show a more positive attitude in the negotiation process.

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[English]

ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

CAPPING OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE

Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, this spring the Conservative Government launched what many people agree to be a short-sighted and regressive measure to the detriment of the aboriginal people of Canada. I am

referring to the capping of post-secondary education assistance for native students who want nothing more than to learn.

This move was made without any consultation, and was even directly opposed to the recommendations of the Neilsen task force which found among other things that native participation rates in Canada's colleges and universities are far below the national average. The Canadian Association of University Teachers has recently condemned the decision, calling the move cynical and noting that this fall is the first time qualified native students will be denied access to education because of lack of funds.

A society that does not have access to higher education is a society that will continue to face unacceptable levels of unemployment, welfare dependency, and incarceration. In the interests of fairness and a brighter future for so many young native people, I call upon the administration to reverse the damage and to reopen the doors of quality education to native youth.

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ROAD SAFETY

DRIVE DRY PROGRAM—SCHEDULED LAUNCHING IN HAMILTON

Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton—Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, Sunday, October 11, in Hamilton will be notable for two reasons. The Hamilton Tiger Cats will be meeting the Saskatchewan Rough Riders at Ivor Wynne Stadium. More important than the outcome of that game, however, will be a special ceremony on the field which will launch the Drive Dry Program.

The Council on Road Trauma is the designated committee on impaired driving for the region of Hamilton—Wentworth. Regional Chairman William Sears, Chief of Police Robert Hamilton and I, among others, are supporting this endeavour to cut down on the incredible number of road fatalities involving alcohol impairment.

The most frightening aspect of the nearly 2,000 alcohol-related deaths in 1986 is that the vast majority occurred in the 16-to-24 age bracket. The Drive Dry Program is designed to educate people that it is not cool to drive under the influence. Driving drunk kills people. Driving dry makes great good sense.

● (1410)

I urge the people of Hamilton—Wentworth and all Hon. Members to support the worthy idea of a Drive Dry Program.

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[Translation]

AEROSPACE

SITE OF NEW SPACE AGENCY—NEED FOR GOVERNMENT TO
MAKE DECISION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, the new Canadian space agency is a subject of constant