

[Translation]

MENTAL HEALTH

FIGHT AGAINST PREJUDICE

Mr. Claude Lanthier (LaSalle): Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Mental Health Association has been co-ordinating activities to make Canadians aware of this difficult area for 30 years in Canada, in an effort to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and to encourage the community to accept those who need mental health services.

Having a Mongoloid little sister, Monique, whose birthday was yesterday, I was happy to participate with the Department of National Health and Welfare and the Canadian Mental Health Association in this worth-while effort to draw attention to the importance of all these issues.

The slogan for Mental Health Week this year is, "Mental health, it's up to me!" We therefore ask all Canadians to give their full support to the activities planned by the local offices of the Canadian Mental Health Association in their various communities, and in particular in LaSalle and Ville-Émard, for this Mental Health Week.

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[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PORTUGAL—GROWTH OF DEMOCRACY FOLLOWING OUSTER OF SALAZAR REGIME

Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, 14 years ago on April 25 the Portuguese people threw out Salazar's fascist Government by a peaceful revolution. The signal was a certain popular song about farming people. When it was heard on the radio on a certain day, civilians and members of the armed forces, in a co-ordinated plan, simply took over government firmly but without bloodshed.

Human rights were restored, including the rights of women, workers, and trade unions. Democratic elections were set for a constitutional convention, and then for a Legislature and President. Since then the Portuguese people have maintained their freedom and their respect for each other's rights in a vigorous political debate.

The Portuguese, by hard work and quiet mutual respect, have set a heartwarming and noble example to all the world of a people throwing off the burden of tyranny peacefully. I am sure every Member of this House would join me in wishing them well in their democratic future.

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FISHERIES

ATLANTIC LICENSING APPEAL BOARD—EXPANSION OF MANDATE ADVOCATED

Mr. Lawrence I. O'Neil (Cape Breton Highlands—Canso): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge that greater authority be conferred upon the Atlantic Licensing Appeal Board. This Board was established as a forum for fishermen to appeal decisions on licensing made over the years by departmental officials. Fishermen in Atlantic Canada welcomed this Board, as did I, Mr. Speaker.

The result has been many equitable decisions. There are, however, a lot of appeals that are not being successful because the Board's mandate is too narrow. I believe the Board must be able to make decisions based on all the circumstances being considered. Presently it seems restricted to narrow principles. The Board reflects a good direction, but its powers and procedures must be expanded.

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[Translation]

SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESSES

TRIBUTE TO ENTREPRENEURS

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, this week is Small Business Week. It is a fact that small businesses contain the most dynamic, innovative and entrepreneurial elements of our Canadian business community.

In the favourable economic climate created by this Government, small businesses have been responsible for 17 per cent of the 1.3 million jobs created since 1984. Out of 43,000 small businesses who answered a questionnaire on free trade, 87 per cent were in favour.

Mr. Speaker, when we pay tribute to our small business entrepreneurs, we are paying tribute to the driving force of our dynamic free enterprise system.

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[English]

AGRICULTURE

DROUGHT IN WESTERN CANADA

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, the drought in western Canada worsens daily. In fact western Canada has received the least amount of moisture and rainfall in 99 years, since 1889. Tumbleweeds and sand storms are shown on television screens across the country. Dug-outs are dry. Seeding will not be possible in some areas because there is not enough moisture for germination. Community pastures are not accepting livestock because there is not enough grass.