

*S. O. 31**[English]*

Thank you, Madam Speaker, for giving me the opportunity to speak on Bill C-34, an act to establish a Canadian Centre for Management Development. Today, however, I would like to stress the importance of employment equity in the Public Service. Mr. Maxwell Yalden, chief Commissioner for the Canadian Human Rights Commission, appeared before the committee on April 26 and said:

Service to the public through an impartial professional Public Service continues to be our goal. But in the changing Canadian context we need to make special efforts to achieve it.

[Translation]

Madam Deputy Speaker: I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member. He can continue his remarks after Question Period.

It being eleven o'clock, pursuant to Standing Order 30(5), the House will now proceed to Members' Statements, pursuant to Standing Order 31.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[English]

THE ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Girve Fretz (Erie): Madam Speaker, I spoke few weeks ago to this issue, the subject of zebra mussels.

While I appreciate that the Ministry of Transport has issued new guidelines with respect to the dumping of ballast prior to ships entering the Great Lakes system, it is imperative that action be taken to control and destroy the infestation of the zebra mussels in the Great Lakes.

In 1990, it will cost Niagara regional taxpayers about \$700,000 to control the zebra mussel infestation of intake pipes at the region's water treatment plants. Ontario Hydrdo expects to spend \$10 million this year to protect intake pipes used for cooling at power stations. The damage that this pest can create in dollar terms is proportional to its ability to multiply. An adult female can produce more than 30,000 eggs annually. There is every likelihood that this pest will continue to spread into our inland waterways and lakes in a very short time.

Therefore, I call on the federal, provincial, and American authorities to take action very quickly on this problem.

* * *

FISHERIES

Mr. Lawrence MacAulay (Cardigan): Madam Speaker, I would like to address an issue faced in my district of Cardigan, and in Prince Edward Island in general.

Groundfish in Prince Edward Island belong to the same biomass as those fish in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. This means that P.E.I. is also experiencing a serious stock depletion.

I would also like to express the concern of the Island groundfish fishermen that the recently announced fisheries aid package was aimed at the needs of other provinces, with little mention of in-shore fishermen in these areas or in Prince Edward Island.

I urge the government, while undertaking its consultations with the regions to determine how this package is to be spent, that it also include the groundfish fishermen of Prince Edward Island.

* * *

TOURISM

Mr. Rob Nicholson (Niagara Falls): Madam Speaker, this has been National Tourism Awareness Week. There is no more important industry to my riding of Niagara Falls than tourism. It puts millions of dollars into the economy of Niagara Falls and Niagara-on-the-Lake. That is why, this week, I was pleased to have the Minister of State for Tourism in my riding.

Among other things, he met with the members of the Niagara Falls Visitor and Convention Bureau. He discussed the topic of the GST and indicated his intention to make rebates for foreign tourists as simple and expeditious as possible. Tour operators will be able to apply for rebates on behalf of their non-resident clients, and I was especially pleased to have the minister announce that instant cash rebates will now be available through duty free shops.

These are steps in the right direction. Tourism will continue to grow in 1991 and beyond. This was confirmed by the Research Institute of the Conference Board of