

S. O. 31

in addition to any applicable FTA customs duty up to the most favoured nation rate of duty in effect.

Certain conditions must be met before the mechanism can be triggered. Import prices must, for five consecutive working days, be below an historical average and planted acreage must not have risen above—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Scott (Hamilton—Wentworth)): I regret to interrupt the hon. member for Simcoe Centre. However, it now being 2 p.m. the House will proceed to Statements by Members pursuant to Standing Order 31.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[*Translation*]

ENVIRONMENT WEEK

Mr. Maurice Tremblay (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, this week is Environment Week, and more than 500 community events will be organized across the country.

My region is one of those that pioneered recycling in this country. Selective garbage collection, recycling at source and many local initiatives have made Bois-Francs and the riding of Lotbinière leaders in protecting the environment. Involving residents, elected members of government and local leaders is essential to save our planet and meet the environmental challenge.

The Green Plan tabled by this government is intended to meet the most pressing needs of Canadians. It is meant as an instrument for permanent change, to protect our environment and our heritage. It will also help Canadians make wise decisions relating to the environment.

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[*English*]

MARK STRAND, U.S. POET LAUREATE

Mr. Joe McGuire (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, during the past week a former Canadian and former Prince Edward Islander, Mr. Mark Strand, was named Poet Laureate of the United States of America. Born in Summerside, P. E. I., Mr. Strand lived the early part of his life there before moving to the eastern United States.

The inspiration for much of his early work came during his youth spent in Prince Edward Island and from summer visits he made to Prince Edward Island and other parts of the Maritimes with his parents.

Mr. Strand holds degrees from Antioch College, Yale University and the University of Iowa. In addition to his long and distinguished career as a poet and short story writer, Mr. Strand has held teaching positions at a number of prestigious American universities, including Yale, Columbia, Princeton and Harvard. At present he is Professor of English at the University of Utah.

His work has brought him recognition and awards from the American Academy and Institution of Arts and Letters and the Academy of American Poets. He has also been a Fulbright scholar, a Rockefeller fellow, a Guggenheim fellow and a MacArthur fellow.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that we recognize the contributions of this former Islander to the world of literature and we congratulate him in his recent appointment as U.S. Poet Laureate.

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GUATEMALA

Ms. Lynn Hunter (Saanich—Gulf Islands): Mr. Speaker, human rights abuses in Guatemala are once again on the rise. Allegations of corruption and misuse of development funds raises grave concerns about this government's decision to renew bilateral aid to Guatemala.

The militarization of Guatemalan society extends to army control of economic growth and planning. Development projects must fit into the army's counter-insurgency plans and the need for a cheap labour force for export crop production.

Amnesty International reports that humanitarian workers, trade unionists, clergy and academics have faced an escalation of abductions, disappearances and killings over the last three years. Increased activity of the notorious death squads further demonstrates that the current government has failed to break the military stranglehold on power in Guatemala.

Resumption of Canadian bilateral aid to Guatemala at a time when human rights violations are rampant is counter to stated Canadian policy. We must find a way to assist the oppressed without giving legitimacy to a corrupt and vicious regime.