

S. O. 31

HECLA ISLAND

Mr. Felix Holtmann (Portage—Interlake): Mr. Speaker, there is a special jewel located within my constituency of Portage—Interlake in Manitoba. The jewel is known as Hecla Island. In the summer, it sparkles; in the winter, it shines.

My constituents and I want Hecla Island, currently a Manitoba provincial park, to join the roster of national parks across Canada. We want this to occur sooner, not later.

I have made a request to the Minister of the Environment to visit Hecla Island this summer to view the splendour and the beauty of this unique area with his own eyes.

Canada's national parks have world-wide recognition and reputation. Hecla Island will be a valuable addition to the system of national treasures, truly a crown jewel of national parks.

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SMALL CRAFT HARBOURS

Mr. Lawrence MacAulay (Cardigan): For years, the people of eastern Prince Edward Island have asked the government to make needed repairs to harbours and wharfs and for years, their calls have fallen on deaf ears.

However, the people of St. John's West seem to speak the language the minister can understand. More money was spent on one wharf in St. John's West in one year than was spent on 28 wharfs in Cardigan riding for the last five years combined.

The time has come for the minister to realize that there are more people who need small craft harbour work than his constituents.

I call upon the minister to be fair to the fishermen of Cardigan and make sure the work to small craft harbours that needs to be done gets done.

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[*Translation*]

MINING INDUSTRY

Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, the mining industry, which used to be one of our worst

polluters, is becoming a leader in respecting the environment. Mines are planning to invest nearly \$500 millions in the environment.

• (1410)

Mr. Jean Roberge, the assistant director of the Quebec Metal Mining Association stated that the Quebec mining industry as a whole, and not only big companies like Noranda, went green between the spring and the fall of 1988 and that we are just starting to notice the effects of this shift.

Quebec mines also have the best track record in Canada for respecting the environment, according to directors at Environment Canada.

Back in 1988, the officials of the Quebec Metal Mining Association developed an "environment savings plan" based on the RRSP system to fight pollution during the life cycle of a mine.

The Association has now published the "environmental bill of health of the industry", the first one ever in North America, and it is arousing interest in Europe. The Quebec government is presently distributing it at the earth summit in Rio.

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[*English*]

SENIORS

Mr. Geoff Wilson (Swift Current—Maple Creek—Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, the beginning of summer is traditionally the time when Canada salutes its seniors, those older Canadians who helped shape this great country and who share our vision of a prosperous and united future for Canada.

Each province and territory has planned activities and events from late May until the end of June in order to mark the substantial and varied contributions that our older citizens make to this country.

Canadians young and old are taking the time to acknowledge the solid foundation that older people have laid for the society we enjoy today.

As I speak, a number of activities and events are taking place in my home province of Saskatchewan under the theme "Canada's Heritage: Bridging the Generations".