

more and more layoffs. In their view CN headquarters should be in western Canada where most of the traffic is.

At the very least the government should indicate that it will reconsider the way it has bound privatized crown corporations like Air Canada and soon CN to keep their headquarters in Montreal, especially if the vote goes the wrong way on October 30. I am sure that Canadians want privatized Canadian crown corporations to be headquartered in Canada.

\* \* \*

• (1400)

### TERRY PUHL

**Mr. John Richardson (Perth—Wellington—Waterloo, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding Canadian athlete and the community that honoured him.

On September 14 the town of St. Mary's, the future home of the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame, hosted 15-year major league veteran Terry Puhl.

Terry, a native of Melville, Saskatchewan, spent 14 of his 15 seasons with the Houston Astros and holds a .280 career batting average. Also known as a superb defensive player, Terry holds the major league record for the best fielding percentage in baseball, .993.

In six of his seasons he did not make a single error and he had only 19 in his entire career. Terry Puhl is the first player to be inducted into the new St. Mary's home of the Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

This visionary and enthusiastic community of only 5,000 people is undertaking to build an \$8.7 million complex to showcase Canadian baseball history and heroes.

I congratulate the people of St. Mary's for their hard work and dedication toward this goal. I wish them success.

\* \* \*

### HUMAN RIGHTS

**Mr. Rey D. Pagtakhan (Winnipeg North, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, 16-year old Sarah Balabagan faces the death penalty in the United Arab Emirates for the stabbing death of her employer.

Last June she was given a prison term but was awarded compensation for the rape she endured at her employer's hands.

It was shocking that last Saturday her sentence was changed to death. This is reminiscent of the hasty execution six months ago in Singapore of another Filipino nanny, an execution deemed unjust on subsequent inquiry but too late.

*S. O. 31*

I therefore urge the House to intervene on Sarah's behalf to allow a full and impartial judicial review of her case.

Canada has long prized human life and championed women's rights worldwide, the theme of the U.N. conference on women held in Beijing. Canada's support may well be the saving voice for this young woman's life.

Canada's timely stand on this matter goes beyond the life of this one young woman to the lives of all women of the world.

\* \* \*

### INDIAN AFFAIRS

**Mr. Elijah Harper (Churchill, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, last week I proposed the concept of a sacred assembly to consider aboriginal issues from a spiritual perspective. This assembly will bring together native and non-native spiritual leaders in the spirit of healing and reconciliation.

I am pleased to report to the House I have received positive responses from churches, spiritual leaders, communities, national groups and my colleague, the hon. minister of Indian affairs. We are now in the process of assembling a working group.

I envision this assembly as a forum for sharing spiritual wisdom on aboriginal issues and as a forum for promoting reconciliation between native and non-native communities in Canada.

This must happen if Canada is to heal and grow strong. I know many here have drawn on faith in our creator to guide and sustain us in our work in the House. In the spirit of this faith I call on all my colleagues in the House to offer their support on this initiative.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

### QUEBEC REFERENDUM

**Mrs. Maud Debien (Laval East, BQ):** Mr. Speaker, the tour organized by women for the yes side in Quebec allowed thousands of women to find out about the choices in the upcoming referendum: on the one hand, a federal system in which unemployed workers and welfare recipients are seen as lazy and higher education is reserved for the rich; and on the other hand, a sovereign Quebec where women can help meet the challenges of a modern society attuned to their needs and priorities.

For the increasingly numerous sovereignist women in Quebec, history has clearly shown how federalism has become a barrier to collective growth. And this government's policies are not likely to make them change their minds.

What Quebec women want above all is a blueprint for society that will finally meet their aspirations. The side in favour of change is proposing such a blueprint. Women see sovereignty as