

## S. O. 31

## ENVIRONMENT

**Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport):** Mr. Speaker, one of the final statements by the former Minister of the Environment was to commit Canada to stabilizing carbon dioxide emissions by the year 2000.

On Friday, May 18, 1990, the Minister of Forestry reassured us all that the minister's commitment is a government commitment. However, last Wednesday, the Prime Minister waffled on the stabilization of carbon dioxide emissions. On Thursday, the new part-time Minister of the Environment repudiated the commitment, while on Friday, the Minister of Forestry recommitted the government to stabilizing carbon dioxide emissions. And the government wonders why Canadians are confused.

We urge the part-time Minister of the Environment to make a clear statement in the House and inform Canadians as to exactly where his government stands on carbon dioxide emissions.

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## BILL C-21

**Mr. Ken James (Sarnia—Lambton):** Mr. Speaker, on November 6, 1989, the House of Commons passed Bill C-21 which incorporates the much needed amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Act.

In particular, the changes include a 45 per cent increase in funding for labour force development. The strategy is to increase the quantity of training and skills development in Canada, as well as to increase the quality and relevancy of this training.

Yet, for seven months, the passage of this legislation has been the victim of a misguided political power play. Do those responsible realize that this delay is already having regional consequences?

In my riding of Sarnia—Lambton alone, assistance under the UI job creation program is in limbo, and the applicants under the self-employment incentive program are anxiously awaiting the passage of Bill C-21.

I say to members opposite and those in the other place: "Let's get on with it. Let's look at the big picture. There's much more at stake here than simple political gamesmanship."

[Translation]

## GREAT BED RACE PUT ON BY THE CHRIST-ROI HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

**Mr. Marcel R. Tremblay (Québec-Est):** Mr. Speaker, on May 16, I had the pleasure to inform this House of an activity put on by the Christ-Roi Hospital Foundation, namely a bed race to raise money to upgrade the hospital's medical equipment.

Well, Mr. Speaker, it has been done!

Having participated in this bed race with 700 others, I realized how enthusiastic and eager people are when it comes to such a laudable objective.

Mr. Speaker, thanks to the hard work of 1,000 volunteers and the continual encouragement of 5,000 people all along the course, this event was a tremendous success.

As proof, the goal of \$100,000 was reached.

Thanks go to foundation president Louise Roy and, on behalf of all users of the Christ-Roi Hospital, to everyone who made this project a reality.

Congratulations and be back next year!

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[English]

## IMMIGRATION

**Mr. Joseph Volpe (Eglinton—Lawrence):** Mr. Speaker, last week, the Economic Council of Canada came before the Standing Committee on Labour, Employment and Immigration to tell members that, although the data was not complete, the "economic benefits of immigration are really very small".

The subtle suggestion was that immigrants are not worth the perceived problems attributed to immigration: strain on the social infrastructure, depressed wages, competition for jobs, social tensions, increased education costs, and any other ills that a lethargic government looking for a scapegoat might wish to attribute to newer Canadians.

The data is there and it tells a different story. Total immigration in 1988-89 represented a mere 0.61 per cent of the Canadian population. For the previous four years, it was 0.59 per cent, 0.39 per cent, 0.33 per cent and 0.35 per cent respectively. When we factor out emigration from Canada, we see that net immigration for the last