

the zebra mussel before the Great Lakes are mussel-bound.

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[*Translation*]

BILL C-21

Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce has urged the members of the Special Senate Committee on Bill C-21 to recommend forthwith that Bill C-21 be passed.

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce supports the bill, which it considers a step in the right direction. Unemployment insurance coverage should be provided for employees who are suddenly and temporarily out of work, said Tim Reid, President of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Reid also said that the uncertainty caused by the present deadlock among employees and employers and the damaging effect on the lives of average Canadians have become intolerable.

Mr. Speaker, it is high time the Senate passed Bill C-21.

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[*English*]

HEALTH

Mr. Joseph Volpe (Eglinton—Lawrence): Mr. Speaker, an estimated 30,000 Canadians are sufferers of myalgic encephalomyelitis, more commonly known as chronic fatigue syndrome. As a health and economic threat, it is second only to AIDS.

It is a total body disease with significant acquired functional and circulatory brain injury causing major cognitive, intellectual, and physical impairment.

The majority of patients incapacitated are highly educated, high functioning, productive professionals and their immediate families, people involved in jobs of high contact with a potentially ill public or a public recently vaccinated or immunized.

The majority of cases start with clear evidence of infectious illness which develops as a severe, chronic disabling disease.

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Yet, except for Australia, no government is funding research and treatment of the serious and debilitating viral-immunological illness.

A symposium on myalgic encephalomyelitis, sponsored last weekend in my riding by sufferers and their families, called on the Government of Canada to devote resources to research and treatment of ME. I urge the Minister of National Health and Welfare to heed that call.

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STATUS OF WOMEN

Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan): Mr. Speaker, any doubts I had about how the Conservative government's agenda is affecting Canadian women were resolved this past month.

I have heard from hundreds of women in my riding and the message is clear. Free trade, the GST, cutbacks, and broken promises add up to bad news for the women of Canada.

Here are some of the things they asked me to tell the Prime Minister: Affordable, accessible child care is a must. Restore educational funding; women need education or face poverty. End restrictions on social assistance funding. Tax big business, not the poor. Stop violence against women. No new abortion law; make it a health care item with equal access for all. Naming a few high profile women to patronage posts is not enough; we need equality in the workplace and in decision-making now. Equal pay for equal work.

And, finally, the message that to me sums it up, we need a new Prime Minister and a democratic country.

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[*Translation*]

NATIONAL TOURISM AWARENESS WEEK

Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, May 14 through 20 is National Tourism Awareness Week.

Tourism is the fastest growing industry in this country. In 1988, it generated \$24 billion in revenues, of which \$17 billion was spent by Canadians visiting their own country and \$7 billion by visitors from other countries.

With 631,000 employees and 577,000 Canadians who depend on tourism for part of their income, the industry is also the fastest generator of new jobs in this country.