

S. O. 31

We have had some stability in that area of farming and we will put that area of farming in a position not unlike that of our grain farmers in western Canada.

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ATTIRE OF MEMBERS

Mrs. Edna Anderson (Simcoe Centre): Mr. Speaker, it must have been a slow news day at *The Globe and Mail* yesterday. It seems that the powers that be found it newsworthy to report that the Minister of Justice and the Associate Minister of National Defence attended an event in Vancouver wearing the same outfits, distinguishable only by slight variations, mercifully salvaging the ministers from the fashion *faux pas*.

I find it remarkable that this would be commented on at all when male members of Parliament present themselves in monotonous uniformity on a daily basis, and on special occasions they appear somewhat like a bunch of penguins, black tie and all.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Speaker: I want to say to the hon. member that I am one of the offenders of the monotonously same set of clothes.

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CROSS-BORDER SHOPPING

Mr. Joseph Volpe (Eglinton—Lawrence): Mr. Speaker, for months I and other opposition colleagues have been pointing out the correlation between the GST and the increase in cross-border shopping.

The government has pooh-poohed everything including the view that this would result in decreased government revenues. All the while the minister was tinkering with customs procedures in order to dispel protests.

Here is what the Auditor General said to the Minister of National Revenue regarding his efforts. First, no analysis was done to assess the effect of express lanes on cross-border shopping and revenue collection. Second, contrary to government claims data for 1990-91 showed an upward trend in cross-border shopping. Third, the congestion at crossing points would increase the risk of compromising enforcement efforts, including revenue collection. Fourth, inadequate border facilities under-

mine facilitation and enforcement efforts, including revenue collection.

Yet the minister continues to claim that cutbacks in government services and resources will not affect its revenue generation abilities.

I am asking the minister now: Will he admit the error of his assumptions and take appropriate steps to safeguard Canadian revenues and the integrity of the Canadian Customs system?

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CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Mr. René Soetens (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, I rise today out of disgust at what CBC Newsworld thinks is newsworthy.

We have an absolutely desperate situation in Croatia. We have a new Auditor General's report. We have numerous good news events occurring across Canada. We even have a great choir singing in the rotunda of our Parliament Buildings.

But what does CBC Newsworld choose for its program content? The rape trial currently under way in Florida. Rape under any circumstance is despicable. The CBC does not need to sensationalize it. The National News Service of the CBC should be admonished and told to find some good Canadian news on which to concentrate its efforts.

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WHITE RIBBON CAMPAIGN

Ms. Dawn Black (New Westminster—Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is a national day of remembrance and action on violence against women. Many men across Canada, including members of Parliament, have chosen to show their concern and solidarity with women and their desire to end violence against women by wearing a white ribbon this week.

However, military personnel are not allowed to wear a white ribbon on their uniforms. There are many examples of other national days for which accessories are permitted. If the military can wear a leek on St. David's Day and a thistle on St. Andrew's Day, why not a white ribbon this week?

I ask the minister to exercise her good sense and rectify this ludicrous situation today.