

S.O. 31

Canadians are a low priority for Canada Post and for this Conservative government.

CLEAN AIR ACCORD

Ms. Lynn Hunter (Saanich—Gulf Islands): Madam Speaker, today's much-touted Clean Air Accord remains deficient; celebration is premature. The ceremonial signing offers appearance without substance, hiding government failings in a flashy replay of previous agreements.

Compliance mechanisms required from monitoring and enforcement remain window dressing at best. Transboundary pollution of Canadian lands by toxic chemicals continue to be a threat. Funding for energy conservation and alternatives to fossil fuels has been slashed. December's promise by the environment minister for national acid rain caps in the Green Plan has been forgotten. Federal air standard agreements with the three western provinces have not been achieved.

This accord may be better than nothing, however, it fails to prevent pollution or protect the health and environment of Canadians. It leaves Canada satisfied to follow the lead of the U.S. in setting standards for air emissions and fails to commit the resources to determine our own stringent regulations for the well-being of Canada's future.

* * *

KIDNEY FOUNDATION OF CANADA

Mr. Harry Chadwick (Bramalea—Gore—Malton): Madam Speaker, I am pleased to express my appreciation and sincere good wishes to the Kidney Foundation of Canada on the occasion of Kidney Month for 1991.

Dedicated volunteers of the Kidney Foundation of Canada ensure that Canadians afflicted with kidney disease and related disorders have access to quality information and specialized services.

In addition, the Kidney Foundation of Canada, with the help of thousands of donors, raises significant sums of money which go toward research and public education programs. The foundation's diligent work in enhancing the quality of life for people with kidney disease and in

sensitizing all Canadians to the special needs of those affected is to be commended.

I invite all Canadians to join me in saluting the members of the Kidney Foundation of Canada and in wishing them continued success in their important work in promoting public awareness of kidney disease, supporting excellence in research and encouraging organ donation.

* * *

ACID RAIN

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Madam Speaker, to you, first of all, and your colleagues, my congratulations for the role you have played over the last decade in the long and difficult saga of reducing acid rain pollution in Canada.

• (1410)

As the Prime Minister and President Bush pose for a photo opportunity today, 3.2 million tonnes of sulphur dioxide pollution continue to cross from the U.S. to Canada every year. Put another way, in the 17 hours that President Bush is in Canada, over 6,000 tonnes of U.S. pollution will have crossed the border too. By 1995, 2.7 million tonnes per year will continue to drift our way and, by the year 2000, still two million tons.

Therefore, the Canadian public should keep in mind that the political accord signed today is only the first, not the final, step in the battle against transboundary acid rain. The next phase is to establish how much we must reduce acid gas emissions beyond the 50 per cent goal that was established a decade ago.

The acid rain battle is far from over.

* * *

[*Translation*]

THE ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Gilles Bernier (Beauce): Madam Speaker, my statement concerns acid rain. Once again, we see the benefits of co-operation between the United States and Canada. In a few moments, a very important event will take place in Parliament.

The President of the United States, Mr. Bush, and the Prime Minister of Canada, Mr. Mulroney, will sign an air quality agreement. As result of this agreement, substan-