

S.O. 21

Canada. As the second most common birth defect in North America spina bifida is often a crippling condition. There is no cure, and parents of spina bifida children are often left with the task of caring for their children without the needed and necessary information.

For nearly 15 years the Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of Ontario has been helping Canadians gain a better understanding of this serious condition. Through information brochures, fund-raising events, and needed personal contacts, the association is helping focus our attention on the needs of people with spina bifida.

I urge all Members to participate in and to support the Spina Bifida Association's efforts. We may not find a cure, but—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Sixty seconds.

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CANADIAN RADIO-TELEVISION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

CONDEMNATION OF LIQUOR ADVERTISING POLICY

Mr. Lee Clark (Brandon—Souris): Mr. Speaker, the CRTC's policy of allowing liquor companies to regulate themselves flies in the face of what the Government is trying to do to change attitudes about excessive drinking.

Last year the federal Government passed strong new laws to fight impaired driving, but that action will solve only part of the problems. If the problems which stem from excessive drinking are to be solved, then attitudinal changes will be needed. But how will that occur when the advertising of liquor companies implies that drinking leads only to a rich, fun-filled life?

I am especially concerned about the influence of these ads on young people, since the average teen-ager spends about three hours in front of the television every day. This advertising has to have some impact on their attitudes.

Selling liquor is a business, and advertising is intended to boost sales. Therefore I do not think that we should trust liquor companies to control the messages which young people receive about alcohol.

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TRADE

TARIFF ON BOOK IMPORTS

Mrs. Sheila Finestone (Mount Royal): Mr. Speaker, cultural industries have become a bargaining chip in free trade

negotiations. The action of the Government in resurrecting the tariff on American and other English language foreign books has put cultural industries on the agenda—as the first item. This breaks Government promises about protecting our cultural industries.

This unfair, discriminatory and ill-conceived policy has been complicated by the fact that the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) and the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) have contradicted each other on where the tariffs apply—French, English, which language books?

Will the Prime Minister address this issue with U.S. Vice-President George Bush? This regressive tariff which applies to all Canada's trading partners should be rescinded. Why is this tariff being imposed upon countries with which Canada has no bone to pick?

The tariff which applies to all Canada's trading partners will affect Canadian companies that import, market, and distribute foreign books to the Canadian public—essential revenue to support Canadian readers, writers and printers.

• (1410)

It seems that the only link between shakes, shingles, and books is wood. All in all, it seems that the Government cannot see the forest for the tariff on the trees. The irony is that we used to have free trade.

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[Translation]

YOUTH

CANADIAN YOUTH FOUNDATION—GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, this afternoon, the Minister of State (Youth) (Mrs. Champagne) announced that \$1 million will be spent to help set up the new Canadian Youth Foundation.

The Foundation, sponsored by the Canadian Council on Children and Youth, will give young Canadians a chance to study and analyze national questions and policies by which they are directly affected and to share their findings with other young people and the agencies concerned in this country.

Mr. Speaker, this is one more example of the Government's abiding interest in our youth. The Foundation is particularly important because it works according to the concept "By and for youth".

Mr. Speaker, our Government has once more demonstrated its firm belief that our country's youth is its most precious resource and that it is everybody's concern.