

S. O. 31

BUY CANADIAN

Mr. Ross Harvey (Edmonton East): Mr. Speaker, among the admonitions decorating the front page of the government's \$15 million exercise in truth control is the stirring instruction to buy Canadian. It is right there. It is No. 4.

All well and good. It is clear Canadians want their government to buy Canadian goods and services in preference to others. Unfortunately because of the free trade deal the government cannot.

For any Canadian government purchase over \$25,000 the free trade deal requires the government to give eligible American goods and services treatment at least as favourable as the most favourable treatment it gives to Canadians.

For example, the government recently bought \$100,000 worth of American carpet for Parliament's own Wellington Building.

Canadians may be saying: "Hey, government, buy Canadian", but the government has to say: "Okay but only so long as Canadian means American too".

New Democrats unlike the Liberals say buy Canadian, period, and to blazes with the trade deal.

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[Translation]

PERSONNE D'ABORD GROUP

Mr. Marcel R. Tremblay (Québec-Est): Mr. Speaker, on May 10, members of the Personne d'abord group in Quebec City, supporters of this organization and Sylvain Lelièvre, a well-known singer, met in what became a very moving experience. Mr. Lelièvre's benefit performance was marked by its intimacy, simplicity and humanism.

People with a mental disability are often erroneously labelled by society as mentally retarded. Most members of this movement organized to show that they are full-fledged members of our society and that they have certain rights. Personne d'abord puts people first. I hope they keep up the good work. They are on the right track.

[English]

DOCKSIDE MONITORING PROGRAM

Mr. Francis G. LeBlanc (Cape Breton Highlands—Canso): Mr. Speaker, two weeks ago the fisheries minister announced the removal of all federal government support for the dockside monitoring program as of May 31 as part of a whole package of administrative changes.

The dockside monitoring program enforces quotas assigned to fishermen through the observation and weighing of catches as they are landed. This program is generally viewed as helping achieve a fair application of the individual quota system and provide reliable and detailed stock information.

Yet the minister has made a mess of the whole program. As before, fishermen who can ill afford it will be forced to pay the costs of the program through user fees. Just about everyone is confused about the host of other program changes announced, including the minister's own officials who seem unable to explain the new program to fishermen.

I urge the minister of fisheries to take immediate steps to explain and clarify this new program and to maintain the present program and federal funding past May 31 until the changes are fully understood by fishermen.

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CANADA HEALTH AUXILIARY WEEK

Mr. Murray Cardiff (Huron—Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to remind members of the House and all Canadians that this is Canada Health Auxiliary Week.

There are more than 120,000 health care volunteers affiliated with over 800 auxiliaries in local communities across Canada.

• (1410)

They are making a valuable contribution each day in humanizing the care given to hospitalized patients, in raising funds for much needed equipment and services, and in sponsoring educational programs within their communities.

The high quality service provided by these volunteers makes life easier and more pleasant for those Canadians who must rely on our health care service. The efforts of