

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CHINESE HEAD TAX AND EXCLUSION ACTS

Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the House that Mr. Mark Aik-Liang, the first Chinese Canadian to bring his head tax certificate into my office in 1983, passed away last September 12 leaving a lonely, distraught widow who has lost most of her eyesight from crying every day since her husband's death. She can no longer read the Chinese newspaper for updates on the head tax issue. There is no member of her family with her. She lives alone. Her only son is left in Hong Kong which might not have happened if it were not for the Chinese Head Tax and Exclusion Acts. Her only burning desire is to see the settlement of the head tax issue which has caused undue suffering for her family.

There are thousands of other families who have suffered similar experiences as the result of the unjust racist head tax. I urge the Government, on behalf of all Parties, to act quickly in negotiating a fair settlement of the head tax issue with the Chinese Canadian National Council. Only after those steps have been fulfilled can Canada be upright in its claims as a nation where equality is extolled and discrimination will not be condoned.

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JUSTICE

MEASURES TO OUTLAW VIOLENT PORNOGRAPHY URGED

Mr. Geoff Wilson (Swift Current—Maple Creek—Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, in the October, 1986 Throne Speech, the Government resolved to defend and strengthen the institution of the Canadian family by, among other measures, taking effective action against violent forms of pornography involving women and children.

I believe there is in Canada today a broad consensus that children and young people not be exposed to pornographic material. Further, that material depicting sexual violence, sexual degradation, and any and all forms of child pornography be outlawed.

The Minister of Justice (Mr. Lewis) indicated recently that he and his officials are studying measures dealing

with child pornography and pornography depicting violence.

Most Canadians believe that violence and degrading pornography is inimical to Canadian family life. It is their hope that the Minister of Justice will proceed expeditiously with his study and come forward with strong measures outlawing malignant forms of pornography. In doing so, the Minister will recognize the importance of the family and the inherent dignity of individual Canadians.

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[Translation]

EMPLOYMENT

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Jean-Marc Robitaille (Terrebonne): Mr. Speaker, last week the Hon. Minister of State for Youth (Mr. Charest) launched the national "Hire a Student" campaign in Canada Place in Ottawa.

I had the pleasure of taking part in this launching together with the Minister and many Hon. Members of this House. It was an opportunity for us to meet hundreds of young people who also took part in this event, which will be repeated across Canada.

Last year, Mr. Speaker, several thousand jobs were created thanks to this campaign.

Canada's young students greatly appreciate the excellent employment opportunities afforded them by this program and I encourage private enterprise to participate actively in this strategy to employ students. They are intelligent and dynamic, they represent the future and they deserve the support of us all.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, on May 26, I shall take part in the official opening of my riding's student summer employment centres in Repentigny and Terrebonne.

I therefore encourage all Hon. Members of this House to support young Canadians and to make this program another great success for young Canadians and all students.

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[English]

ENVIRONMENT

NEED FOR ACTION TO ENSURE SAFE DRINKING WATER

Mr. Rex Crawford (Kent): Mr. Speaker, water is a precious resource. I have no fear about drinking the water in this glass. However, living with uncertainty