

Mr. Speaker, last summer I attended the Saskatoon Games where I saw a fantastic organization that functioned in both official languages.

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GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Eugène Bellemare (Carleton—Gloucester): Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that this week, throughout Canada, around the clock, Canadian men and women will dial 1-900-720-6052 to object to the goods and services tax.

I urge Canadians to support the national campaign against the goods and services tax which will take place from March 12 to March 16.

This telephone petition will enable all Canadians to vote against the GST and express their dissatisfaction. Vote massively against the GST!

Say no to the GST by dialing 1-900-720-6052.

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[English]

THE ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Ken Monteith (Elgin): Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw to the attention of the House the issue of acid rain. Last June the President of the United States, George Bush, introduced legislation that would see acid rain emissions from industrial sources cut back nearly half by the turn of the century.

More recently the United States stated in principle that they were ready to agree to that legislation after successful negotiations were completed between the White House and the Senate. This is only the latest in the long list of successes for our government since 1984 on the issue of acid rain.

Our own country set a prime example. Agreements were made with the provinces affected by acid rain to reduce sulphur dioxide emissions by 2.3 million tonnes per year. Lead is to be removed from gasoline emissions by December 1, 1990. New emission standards have reduced the amount of pollution from cars and trucks. The list goes on.

This is evidence that all the time and effort put forth by this government and especially by our Prime Minister to address this problem to the President of the United States is finally meeting with success. Only by Canadians

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and Americans working toward the common goal of acid rain reform can we realize a cleaner, healthier environment for all North Americans.

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• (1410)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Mr. Ron Fisher (Saskatoon—Dundurn): Mr. Speaker, today my colleagues and I met with representatives of labour groups from across this country. They brought the message once again that the government's plan to destroy unemployment insurance will not be accepted.

The government's response to the Senate does nothing to respond to the serious concerns of people from across the country who have appeared before committee after committee.

Bill C-21 is bad legislation. At the very time when workers most need income protection, whether they live in Canso or Saskatoon, the government is cutting benefits and increasing hardships for thousands of families.

The Senate amendments do not go nearly far enough toward maintaining the kind of program this country so desperately needs. This government should listen to the people, do the honourable thing and withdraw this bill.

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VETERANS AFFAIRS

Mr. Lee Richardson (Calgary Southeast): Mr. Speaker, I have heard from friends and fellow members of the Ogden Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion who support recent changes to the board and lodging charges for long term care for Canada's veterans. They know that these changes correct an inequity where the majority of veterans pay \$240 a month while others pay nothing for the same service.

Veterans across the country will now be treated equally. Veterans with low incomes or disability will pay less than \$240 a month or nothing at all. Veterans will continue to pay the lowest rate for long term care in Canada because the maximum amount is set at the lowest rate charged by any province. These changes do not affect veterans' pensions and allowances which continue to be generous and fully indexed. For example, married veterans are guaranteed \$1,185 a month before deductions, and single veterans are guaranteed \$585 a month before deductions. Veterans also receive Old Age