

*S. O. 31*

increased the cost of fishing this year. At the same time, fishermen will be facing quota cuts in the order of 70 per cent.

If this government wants to close down the fishery in the gulf and on the Scotia shelf, why does it not do so directly and provide adequate compensation and adjustment programs for those people in communities that will be affected rather than jerking the fishermen and fish processing companies around with its confused management policies?

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**LIBERAL PARTY**

**Mr. Felix Holtmann (Portage—Interlake):** Madam Speaker, I would not purposely go out of my way to frighten you, but in this case hang on to your chair. When a former finance minister who brought Canada its highest interest rates, highest inflation, record increases of government spending, becomes the leader of the present day Liberal Party and he makes his economic statement, then this is scary stuff.

The Liberal boss's position on the GST must have his backbenchers almost sucking lollipops. First, he was going to eliminate it. No, no, no. Now it is going to be replaced with, well, it is going to be announced after the election. But no, no, that was not good enough. He is going to replace it with a hidden business transfer tax. No, no, none of the above. It is now going to be studied by a committee.

Now the Liberal agenda is starting to surface. The Liberal platform is sneaky and frightening to all Canadians.

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**WHITE CANE WEEK**

**Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound—Muskoka):** Madam Speaker, I would like to remind the House and hon. members present that since 1946, the first week of February has been designated White Cane Week by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. A national network of special events occurred during this week to make all Canadians aware of the challenges faced by blind and visually impaired persons in our society.

The theme for this year's week, February 6 to 13, is employer awareness because there has been a tremen-

dous increase in the last decade in the availability of educational and technological resources that enable persons with visual impairments to work. Providing employers with an awareness of the job skills and potential possessed by persons with visual impairments is an important step toward that goal.

I am pleased that the federal government has had a long and productive association with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. The Department of National Health and Welfare has been supporting this organization—

**Madam Deputy Speaker:** I am sorry, I must interrupt the hon. member.

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**DAVIS INLET**

**Mrs. Beryl Gaffney (Nepean):** Madam Speaker, Canadians are pleased to learn that the Innu of Davis Inlet will have a treatment program instituted and the government has agreed to move the Innu to the mainland. We cannot stop there. This government may have succeeded in the damage control of promising to take care of the one situation that has attracted the attention of Canadians and the international community, but an official of the Assembly of First Nations informed my office that there are at least 100 communities in similar situations across Canada.

Solvent abuse, alcohol and drug abuse and suicide are rampant in aboriginal communities such as Big Cove, New Brunswick, Fox Lake, Alberta, Cat Lake, Ontario, and I could go on and on. These communities need more of a government commitment to help address these issues. It is time to stop waiting for emergencies to happen before making a commitment. Proactive steps are needed immediately, not reactive steps when atrocities occur.

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**GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

**Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant):** Madam Speaker, one year ago today members endorsed a New Democrat motion which called for Canada to support a balanced GATT negotiating position on agriculture including the maintenance, strengthening and clarification of article XI and an end to export subsidies.