

*S. O. 31*

is my confidence in the future destiny of Canada and in the role which we have to play in the larger world.

I do sincerely believe that Canadians must and will rise to this highest goal of strengthening the very unity of our nation in the months which lie ahead. Only in such national strength and unity can we help to lead the countries of the world in confronting the truly global challenges of our time, both economic and environmental.

\* \* \*

**ENERGY**

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell):** Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of this House the fact that the price of propane fuel has sky-rocketed by 50 per cent over the last month. Since the beginning of December bulk propane has increased from approximately 19 cents a litre to 30 cents a litre throughout all of eastern Ontario. One feed mill in my constituency has estimated that the cost of operating its boilers would increase by \$20,000 this year if that price remains the way it is. An owner of a grocery store and bakery in my riding which utilizes propane has also stated that his costs would increase by over \$8,000 this winter alone.

I call upon the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources to immediately contact the officials of the large oil producing companies and tell them that the price increase in propane is totally unjustifiable. In a rural area such as the one that I represent, propane is a fuel of necessity. We need it in order to run many of the businesses in my riding. I hope that the government notices this issue and reacts immediately.

\* \* \*

[*Translation*]

**THE ENVIRONMENT**

**Mr. Gabriel Desjardins (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, everyone admits that the greenhouse effect responsible for global warming is a major environmental challenge.

On January 16, 1990, the Horne Division of Noranda Minerals in Rouyn-Noranda reported on the concrete action taken in recent years to fight the greenhouse effect.

In 1980, over 15 million Imperial gallons of heavy oil were burned, but in 1989, they only used 166,000, a reduction of 98.9 per cent. The tonnage of coal used went from 32,350 in 1980 to 10,539 in 1989, a decrease of 67.4 per cent.

Noranda Minerals attributes these successes to the building of two air separation plants in the last few years at a cost of some \$16 million. By thus reducing its use of heavy oil and coal very significantly, the Horne Division of Noranda is reducing its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 4.2 billion cubic feet a year compared to 1980. To give some idea of the size of such a reduction, it is equivalent to the annual emissions of 23,000 single-family homes heated with natural gas.

Mr. Speaker, clearly the federal government's environmental leadership is bearing fruit. I would also like to ask all my colleagues—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but his time has expired.

\* \* \*

[*English*]

**HEALTH**

**Ms. Albina Guarnieri (Mississauga East):** Mr. Speaker, the American Lung Association recently released a study showing that air pollution from automobiles causes between 50,000 and 120,000 deaths in the United States each year. It is costing the health system over \$40 billion annually. These deaths are a result of low emission standards and the continued reliance on so-called dirty fossil fuels.

The report also states that automobile fumes are responsible for devastating large tracts of valuable agricultural and forest land. These startling conclusions must be of equal concern to Canadians. They send a clear warning that this government should begin to take seriously the need to encourage and promote the use of alternative fuels.