

We are tired of hearing the environment minister utter pious platitudes about the importance of the environment in government decision making when every major action undertaken by the government shows a literally breathless disregard for the environment.

As a bare minimum the government must now commit itself to a thorough assessment of CO₂ emissions from both projects before they proceed.

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REMEMBRANCE DAY

Mr. Brian O'Kurley (Elk Island): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to those Canadians who sacrificed their lives for our country during war. While many brave soldiers did not return, many others did, and to the ones who did return I want to thank people like my father and thousands of other Canadians who fought for Canada so that I and many others of my generation would not have to experience the horrors of war.

Yes, this is a great country, strong and free, one of the greatest societies in the world. On behalf of all the people in Elk Island, I wish to recognize the tremendous sacrifice of the previous generation for my generation.

Let us all teach our children about the futility of war so that they will also experience a Canada of peace.

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FINANCE

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, Canadians awoke this morning to the news that the Canadian dollar has reached an all time 10-year high.

Some people think the strength of the dollar is a good thing. The fact is that the stronger the dollar, the weaker the economy. That can be seen in the deplorable state of our export markets. Our current accounts are now at the lowest rate they have been in 10 years. The fact of the matter is that for every additional cent added to the dollar we lose \$1.3 billion in exports.

I know members opposite do not care about our export market because they have already sold out that market, but the fact of the matter is that every time the dollar rises it is the regions that produce our resources, our

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export earners in wood, fish, grain, potash and minerals, that suffer.

I say to you, Mr. Speaker: it is about time the Minister of Finance forgot his foolish obsession to the goods and services tax, his ill-begotten attempt to force this country into bankruptcy, and started to really manage the economy, to get the interest rates down and get the dollar down so that Canada can begin competing again in world markets.

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AGRICULTURE

Mr. Ken Monteith (Elgin): Mr. Speaker, on November 7, the Minister of Agriculture released a discussion paper entitled *Growing Together*. This paper incorporates the concerns expressed by farmers over the past four years and lays the foundation for an effective dialogue among partners in agriculture—the producer, the federal government and the provincial governments.

This paper outlines pillars essential for growth in the Canadian agri-food industry. These pillars are market responsiveness, self-reliance, regional sensitivity and environmental sustainability. They are essential to Canada and Canadian farmers maintaining the leading edge as producers of high quality foods.

I encourage all producer organizations, individual farmers and politicians from all levels of government to examine this document carefully. Now is the time for communication on this important issue. Let us get our thoughts on the table so that fruitful discussion can take place and a new comprehensive agricultural policy can be put in place for the 1990s and beyond.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Douglas Young (Gloucester): Mr. Speaker, I will direct my question to the Deputy Prime Minister. There is a great deal of confusion with respect to the goods and services tax, and it is becoming a question now of who Canadians can believe on this matter. I think they deserve to know the truth about the goods and services tax.