

This response from the minister confirmed our worst fears. This government is turning a blind eye to the tragedy waiting to happen in Burundi. The optimist front put up by the minister, who talks about an illusive will to reconcile, brings back sad memories of the tragedy in Rwanda, where the international community was confronted with a crisis it was unable to prevent.

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[English]

#### CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY

**Mr. Grant Hill (Macleod, Ref.):** Mr. Speaker, April marks the beginning of spring, a time for new growth and a time of hope. It is particularly fitting that April is Canadian Cancer Society month.

The society works diligently to find a cure for cancer, to open the pathways of discovery and to change the lives of Canadians. Thousands upon thousands of Canadians benefit every year from the research the Canadian Cancer Society performs.

Since 1948 the society's fundraising month of April has brought Canadians together to contribute to the fight against cancer. Last year more than \$44.2 million was raised during the campaign. This year's goal is \$47.6 million.

I ask that my colleagues in the House join with me in supporting this society for even one of our own members in this House, the hon. member for Nepean, is now recovering from this scourge.

With the work of the Canadian Cancer Society and the will of the Canadian people, cancer will be beaten.

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#### INTEREST RATES

**Mr. John Solomon (Regina—Lumsden, NDP):** Mr. Speaker, the Liberal interest rate policy is killing the hopes and dreams of Canadians to own their own homes. As well it is severely hurting our Canadian economic recovery.

Since the Liberal government jammed the interest rates upward last fall, the result has been that the last half of 1994 was the most brutal on record for house sales. The high unpredictable interest rate policy is also forcing residential construction into a nosedive which is costing thousands of jobs.

This Liberal government has not learned its lesson from the last time it was in office when its high interest rate policy caused the 1980 recession.

I am telling the Liberal government to listen. High interest rates mean fewer home sales, less consumer spending, smaller economic growth and fewer jobs. The Liberal high interest rates are wiping out any chance Canada has of seeing an economic recovery and it is hurting families desperately.

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Canadians are worried about their future, but this government is not interested in home buyers or Canadian consumers. It is only interested in keeping the banks and the moneychangers happy and wealthy.

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[Translation]

#### CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP

**Mrs. Pierrette Ringuette—Maltais (Madawaska—Victoria, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, a ceremony was held today in the Hall of Honour to reaffirm our Canadian citizenship. That ceremony gives us an opportunity to show the importance which we attach to our rights, our privileges and our responsibilities as citizens of this great country.

I want to thank the Liberal member for Don Valley North for organizing a ceremony which allows all of us, in spite of our cultural diversity, to get together and to show how proud we are to be Canadians.

[English]

This reaffirmation marks not only the importance of staying united in order to be prosperous, but proves once again to the world that Canada and its citizens are number one in this Parliament. We should be proud of our accomplishments as a young nation providing world leadership and an enviable quality of life.

Vive le Canada. Long live Canada.

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[Translation]

#### YOUNG QUEBECERS

**Mr. Paul DeVillers (Simcoe North, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, we recently learned that 92 per cent of young Quebecers between the ages of 18 and 35 feel happy and are primarily concerned with the work world.

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It must be pointed out that separation is not one of their priorities. In fact, the separatist movement is in rough shape these days. A study conducted by McGill University confirms that support for separation among young Quebecers has drastically diminished since the 1980 referendum.

The Liberal government is doing something about the concerns of that generation by creating jobs, while the Bloc Quebecois and the Parti Quebecois are stuck with their outdated option.

Young Quebecers are happy in Canada and they want to remain part of it because they know that it is the best country to live in. Again, we can clearly see that the separatists are totally disconnected from the real concerns of young people.