

S. O. 31

[English]

FORESTRY

Ms. Lynn Hunter (Saanich—Gulf Islands): Madam Speaker, Canada's cut and run logging of the past will become the exploit and sell out industry of the future unless action is taken immediately.

Canada's forest lands are being alienated, subdivided, sold off and urbanized by major forestry companies.

MacMillan Bloedel, the company which spends millions to lobby for clearcutting 3,000 hectares in both the Carmanah and Tsitika valleys, is now marketing 3,000 hectares of its Managed Forest Lands on Galiano Island in the Gulf Islands as an "investment in paradise".

This is profiteering and real estate speculation of forest lands on which they have received preferential tax assessment, paid no royalties or stumpage fees.

• (1110)

Forest lands must be managed for the public. Economic self-interest by multinationals cannot be allowed to destroy communities, jobs and the environment.

If Canada is indeed serious about protecting its forests and its international reputation, the respect for communities, for jobs and for the environment must be part of the business plan.

It is the responsibility of governments to ensure that message is delivered.

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NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

Mr. Scott Thorkelson (Edmonton—Strathcona): Madam Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the House to National Volunteer Week which is being held this year from April 21 to April 27.

This week, communities across the nation are paying tribute to those many Canadians who donate their time and energy to ensure the well-being of fellow citizens and to support the causes in which they believe.

Thirteen million Canadians, men and women of all ages, from all walks of life and from every cultural

background make volunteering an integral part of their lives.

Whether working on their own or through organized groups, they play a strong and vital role in ensuring that our society is more open and compassionate. Through their dedication and commitment, they help shape and strengthen our communities and are one of the most valuable natural resources this country has.

Volunteering fosters community spirit and promotes a sense of belonging. It connects individuals with their neighbours, with others sharing common interests or concerns and with Canadians nation-wide.

The strength of the volunteer spirit in Canada is a remarkable achievement. This nation truly owes a debt of gratitude to its many volunteers.

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[Translation]

TRIBUTE TO LOUIS LABERGE

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Saint-Denis): Madam Speaker, Louis Laberge's leaving the presidency of the Quebec Federation of Labour will be a dramatic occasion for all those who, during his 27 years at the helm of this dynamic union, got to know him and love him with his faults and good qualities.

But we already have the assurance that he will remain on the scene as full-time president of the Quebec Workers' Solidarity Fund, which he was so instrumental in creating in 1983 and has more than 100,000 shareholders and \$350 million in assets. This fund is his pet project and he will certainly put his whole heart into running it well.

Nicknamed the grey eminence, but more affectionately known as our national "Ti-Louis", Mr. Laberge is an old friend. I was fortunate to know this bubbly, colourful personality in the 1950s when, with my father whom he called Dr. Hector, he sat on Montreal City Council. I was able to appreciate his energy, his fighting spirit and his dedication to all the causes he believes in.

Elected president of the QFL in 1964, the same year I was elected member of Parliament for Saint-Denis, Ti-Louis has become the likable but rough 67-year-old lion who will still make his presence felt in the labour