

S. O. 31

As for preventing further ozone depletion, even industry has urged the government to bring in stiff regulations against ozone depleting chemicals.

Research into the impacts and adaptation to UV radiation must be a priority considering that dangerous levels will damage everything from fish in the sea to crops in the field.

I call on this government to accept that action on its part is a necessity. Time is running out.

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[*Translation*]

SENIOR CITIZENS MONTH

Mr. André Harvey (Chicoutimi): Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and enthusiasm that I join the Minister of State for Seniors in reminding Canadians that June is Senior Citizens Month. Senior citizens built this country. Their experience and values are a legacy we cherish as a nation. Our view of society is one where the young and not so young share a common experience and where senior citizens have an important role to play in the future of this country.

Every year the provinces and territories organize activities from the end of May to the end of June in recognition of our senior citizens. For instance, during the last week of May, Quebec organized a number of activities to honour seniors in our province. The federal government will inaugurate Senior Citizens Month with an exhibition to be held in Ottawa on June 1 and 2 at the Citadel Hotel.

I ask all members of this House and all Canadians to join their communities in celebrating Senior Citizens Month.

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[*English*]

NORTH WEST RIVER

Hon. William Rompkey (Labrador): Madam Speaker, in 1743 a Quebec merchant named Louis Fornel sailed into Hamilton Inlet, Labrador and established the first trading post at North West River. This year North West River celebrates its 250th birthday.

North West River has been the home of many important historical figures. Donald Smith, Lord Strathcona, the man who drove the last spike in the CPR, was a Hudson Bay factor there from 1848 to 1868.

I think also of Dr. Tony Paddon, a long-time Grenfell doctor in Labrador. He became the first Labradorian to become Lieutenant Governor of the province.

There are many other graduates of North West River's Yale school, of which I was principal at one time. They are people who have made valuable contributions to their communities.

In our 250th anniversary year I know that all members will want to join with me in wishing former residents and present residents of North West River a happy anniversary. I look forward to celebrating this occasion with them this summer.

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[*Translation*]

SUBSIDIES

Mr. Gilles Bernier (Beauce): Madam Speaker, the member for Beauce is gratified to see that the federal government has, as of April 1 this year, changed its procedure for helping industry and creating jobs. From now on subsidies over \$100,000 will be refundable. I have constantly asked the Minister of Finance to change our procedure. Although this particular approach has been used from time to time, I have often suggested it should be incorporated in legislation. This change in procedure will certainly be well received by the business community and all Canadians.

Once again the riding of Beauce and its member of Parliament have helped initiate a financially responsible decision. From now on subsidies will be refundable. It goes to show that perseverance pays.

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• (1410)

[*English*]

THE ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—St. Clair): Madam Speaker, yesterday the Government of Ontario tabled an environmental bill of rights that met with the approval of business and environmental groups alike.