

government act responsibly, for a change, when handling the financial and economic affairs of this country.

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[English]

FOREST INDUSTRY

Mr. Philip Mayfield (Cariboo—Chilcotin): Mr. Speaker, in the 1993 forest industry in B.C. report Price Waterhouse advised that after several years of losses the British Columbia forest industry earned a profit of \$520 million on sales of \$14.3 billion and 215 million trees were planted in addition to the 275,000 hectares of land reclassified to satisfactorily restocked.

The forest industry in British Columbia directly and indirectly employs over a quarter of a million people, some 18 per cent of B.C.'s workforce. Across Canada the industry is the mainstay of 346 communities including 116 in British Columbia. Of the 116 several are in my own riding of Cariboo—Chilcotin.

As we enter the 21st century we need Canada to remain a world leader in forestry. This will not happen unless governments and the public take pride in what Canada does best by offering support to forestry workers as well as taking the benefits of what they provide.

Forestry is the main industry in the country. Let us salute all who work in the forest industry providing jobs and financial stability to small—

The Speaker: The hon. member for Saskatoon—Clark's Crossing.

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GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Chris Axworthy (Saskatoon—Clark's Crossing): Mr. Speaker, prior to the last election the Liberals promised repeatedly that they would scrap the GST. We know this tax has hurt lower and middle income Canadians, small and medium sized businesses, and has cost hundreds of thousands of Canadians their jobs. We need a tax system which is more unfair, not more unfair, and we deserve a government which keeps its promises.

What does this new Liberalspeak mean? It means applying GST to food and prescription drugs. It wants to tax families on the bread they eat and on the prescription drugs they buy for their children. Yet it leaves the sales of stocks and bonds free of GST.

How perverse can this be? Once again the rich get a break and the middle and lower income Canadians get hit. That is Liberal tax reform.

The government should earnestly search for a more progressive system of taxation which closes loopholes for the wealthy and large profitable corporations and gives middle and lower income Canadians a break. Most of all the government should stop breaking its election promises.

S. O. 31

THE LATE CONSTABLE TODD BAYLIS

Mr. Gurbax Singh Malhi (Bramalea—Gore—Malton): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Constable Todd Baylis, the Toronto police officer tragically killed in the line of duty last Thursday night.

Todd was a resident of my riding. The 25-year old policeman was liked by co-workers and neighbours. He was intelligent, popular and faced a bright future with his fiancée, Janice Graham. Todd was a true life hero and role model.

Constable Todd Baylis was a young man who had his life taken by the senseless, brutal action of a criminal who should never have been on the streets. He was the second officer killed in the line of duty since 1984.

On behalf of all Canadians I offer my deepest sympathy to Todd's family, fiancée and co-workers.

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● (1415)

CANADA

Mr. Harold Culbert (Carleton—Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, as this House nears the summer recess may I extend to you our gratitude for your generosity and understanding toward all members of this House. Your quick wit and fair attitude has been appreciated.

During this session we have heard comments on Atlantic Canada, Quebec, central Canada, western Canada, B.C. and the north. I should tell you and this House that each of these components is important to my Canada and will continue to be. My Canada has no greater province or people nor does it have any lesser province or people. It is but one Canada and one people, equal in every way.

According to a recent poll 61 per cent of Canadians approve the Chrétien government actions.

Mr. Speaker, to you and to all members of this House, have a great summer. May God bless Canada and all Canadians.

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JUSTICE

Mr. Myron Thompson (Wild Rose): Mr. Speaker, it has been stated a number of times in the House that the justice system in Canada is working fine. These statements made by the Minister of Justice and the Solicitor General are not, I repeat are not, the same feelings of the rank and file Canadians throughout the country.

This government's efforts to being in change and make Canada safer are mediocre at the very best. This government