

S.O. 31

the ten provinces or to the three national research councils which grant research funds to universities.

Health and education are vital necessities, yet the Minister of Finance has warned the provinces of further cut-backs to these twin social programs come next Tuesday. Mr. Speaker, budget day should help add on to what we have built and not destroy what we have. I urge this government to safeguard our future.

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AIDS

Hon. David MacDonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I rise in the House to urge the Minister of Justice to end discrimination based on sexual orientation by tabling the long awaited amendments to the Canadian Human Rights Act. The governments of Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and Yukon, have already recognized that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is not justified.

The existing federal legislation fails to ensure equal rights to same-sex couples as it does to heterosexual couples. This is clearly illustrated in medical matters, for the consultation paper, "A Working Document for the Development of the National Strategy on HIV Infection in AIDS," which was initiated by the Minister of National Health and Welfare, recognizes this very point.

It argues that an effective AIDS strategy and elimination of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation are inter-related. Persons with aids involved in same-sex relationships do not have the same legal status and as a result the same legal rights as persons in heterosexual relationships. Quite clearly, this is unacceptable in a society that adheres to a belief in tolerance of all minorities. This issue must be addressed at the earliest opportunity by amending the Canadian Human Rights Act to include sexual orientation as a prohibited ground of discrimination.

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COLOMBIA

Ms. Lynn Hunter (Saanich—Gulf Islands): Mr. Speaker, yesterday President George Bush visited Colombia for talks with Andean leaders on the drug trade. This summit represents the world's most costly photo opportunity. Although it was heartening to hear the U.S. President's brave words, they will do little in the short

term to improve the condition of the majority of Andeans.

Appeals to Colombian farmers to grow alternative crops have a hollow ring when one considers the recent fall of international commodity prices. Multinational corporations encourage monocropping in the developing world, and then dictate the prices these farmers can charge, condemning Andeans to subsistence farming. With the price of coffee dropping like a stone is it any wonder that impoverished farmers are convinced to grow coca instead?

And what is the Canadian response to the drug problem in South America? This government has chosen to beef up technological transfers to assist policing in the region so that local governments can track down the drug runners. Although this cops and robbers approach to development has some validity, it does nothing to address the fundamental needs of the Andean farmers who are compelled to grow coca.

I urge the Minister of Finance to consider the complexities of this isolated development problem when he is formulating his pending budget. Further cuts to development assistance will contribute to the drug problem that affects us all.

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INGLIS

Mr. Pat Sobeski (Cambridge): Mr. Speaker, Inglis, a company in the riding of Cambridge, announced it will begin production at the end of July of household trash compactors at the Cambridge plant for Whirlpool Corporation.

Inglis' Cambridge plant will have the exclusive North American mandate for producing trash compactors. To accommodate the new production Cambridge plant production of dishwashers will be transferred to the Findlay, Ohio plant.

No jobs will be lost as a result of this decision. In fact, Inglis expects to create an estimated 50 new jobs at the Cambridge plant. Employees involved in the new production will be trained. The Cambridge plant will be retooled for the new production over a ten-week period. During this time employees involved with the new operation will be temporarily laid off. However, to minimize the number of lay-offs Inglis will be increasing dryer production where possible. In addition Inglis will maintain employee group insurance benefits at the