

Torture and long periods of confinement have damaged his health, and he is suffering from advanced heart disease.

I would like to express my extreme disquiet at the treatment Professor Massera has been receiving for so many years in the detention centres run by the Uruguayan military authorities. In addition, I would like to recommend that the Canadian Government and other interested organizations continue to send a vigorous protest—

**Mr. Speaker:** I regret to interrupt the Hon. Member, but his time has expired.

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● (1410)

## INDUSTRY

### PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY—CALL FOR TAX EXEMPTION

**Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton):** Mr. Speaker, on Saturday an article appeared in *The Toronto Star* quoting the chairman of the Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario. He stated, quite correctly, that large energy users are being taxed to death by hidden taxes and that this is robbing them of the chance to compete. In particular this affects the petrochemical industry in Canada.

Most other countries recognize that industries such as this, which use a significant portion of our natural gas and oil as feedstock for their products, should be exempt from the type of taxes designed to reduce resources depletion. These industries must be recognized as value creating rather than energy destroying operations. It is about time the Government recognized it must do something to allow these Canadian industries to remain competitive.

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## CRIMINAL CODE

### SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN—SUGGESTED COMMITTEE STUDY

**Mr. Ray Skelly (Comox-Powell River):** Mr. Speaker, today I would like to call the attention of the House to an issue which is one of the most important social issues in Canada, involving the protection of children. This House and this Parliament must take immediate, specific, and effective action to prevent the sexual abuse of children. I have discussed this matter with the Minister of National Health and Welfare. (Miss Bégin), and I have written to a number of Members of Parliament and they agree action must be taken now.

I request, Mr. Speaker, that this House direct the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs to inquire into the problem of sexual abuse of children and report to the House with recommendations on prevention, detection, and action to protect children from sexual abuse.

I further request that this House direct the Minister of National Health and Welfare and the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Roberts) to change the criteria of

their program funding in order to provide funding to organizations assisting in the fight against sexual abuse of children.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I request that the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Bussières) and the Solicitor General (Mr. Kaplan) act vigorously to bar the importation and distribution in Canada of periodicals which actively support incest and the sexual abuse of children. This matter has been called to the attention of those Ministers, and as of today action is still pending.

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## TOURISM

### EFFECT OF COST OF GASOLINE

**Mr. Ronald Stewart (Simcoe South):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of State for Small Businesses and Tourism (Mr. Smith) must be aware of the importance of that industry and know that tourism, although in the hands of small business, is big business in our country. In 1981 it earned \$16.6 billion in receipts, over 5 per cent of Canada's Gross National Product, \$7.7 billion in government revenues, \$3.8 billion in foreign exchange, and \$2.6 billion in induced investment. He is no doubt aware that tourism is Canada's fifth largest earner of foreign exchange, recession resilient, engages over 100,000 businesses, mostly small and primarily Canadian, and is a large employer by employing one in ten Canadians directly or indirectly, creating 2.2 million jobs.

I have in my hand, Mr. Speaker, a news release from the Canadian Automobile Association to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Lalonde) in which they state that the high cost of gasoline has been a major culprit in deterring foreign travellers from auto touring in Canada. About 85 per cent of all tourism in Canada is by automobile, and the tourism industry creates some \$29 billion in jobs and income. It goes on to say that motorists pay over \$1 billion annually in excess of the funds required to finance the NEP, another Liberal rip-off. It says we must eliminate the excise tax applied to gasoline, withdraw the Canadian ownership special charge, and charge a fixed rate for federal sales tax on automobile fuels as was the case prior to 1981. Mr. Speaker, I say "Amen", and I plead with the Minister to go to the Minister of Finance and point out the truth.

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## CANADIAN HERITAGE

### CULTURAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF IMMIGRANTS

**Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River):** Mr. Speaker, Canada is made up of many people. We have the two founding nations, Britain and France, with Britain being made up of the English, Scots, Irish, and Welsh. But Canada is more than just two founding nations. We have people from almost every part of the world who came here to make a contribution. Many came with only the shirts on their backs, but they came here with a