

record in 1988. Investment has increased steadily with a record investment of \$4.7 billion in 1989, encouraged by the leadership of ACOA.

Yes, we do have some problems and challenges in Atlantic Canada, but these actual numbers paint a very positive picture for Nova Scotia.

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CBC FARM BROADCASTS

Mr. Vic Althouse (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to George Price, one of agriculture's finest champions and a golden voice in broadcasting who is scheduled to retire from CBC Radio this June.

For the past 31 years, listeners across Canada could hear his parliamentary items during the daily radio noon show. He has survived many rounds of CBC cut-backs. He has watched as some stations sliced time from the farm show. He has seen commentators leave without replacement and he has watched many food and farm reports become resource reports. Now with his retirement his position will be cut and that hurts. It hurts George to know that his work is considered unnecessary, but it hurts rural Canada too.

It is a further slap in the face from a government that has been steadily reducing communications funding and services to rural Canada. Rural Canadians need informed and accurate reports on events that shape their lives. CBC may be reflecting what the government wants when it makes this cut but it is not what rural Canada needs.

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[Translation]

CANADA AND INDOCHINA

Hon. André Ouellet (Papineau—Saint-Michel): Mr. Speaker, Canada's Cambodian community was both saddened and distressed when it heard about the statement on Indochina made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) in the House of Commons on January 25.

A few days ago, I had the pleasure of meeting, at my office, a delegation headed by Mr. Sarindeth Duy, President of the Khmer Association for National Action, who, with other members of this groups, including Simon Yim, Buddhi Klok, Seng Phlang and Chan Dara, ex-

pressed their concern about the statement made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, because Canada, which so far had always been neutral and had taken a very independent position on this matter, now seemed to be siding with those who had caused such widespread persecution in that country.

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[English]

THE CONSTITUTION

Mr. Ross Belsher (Fraser Valley East): Mr. Speaker, I am concerned about what is taking place in my country. My parents were born and raised in Shawville, Quebec, not 50 miles from here. My dad homesteaded in southern Saskatchewan. He and mother farmed there for 60 years. I was born in the "dirty thirties". I know what drought and depression are. I am Canadian. This is my country, the best country in the world. But it seems there is a constitutional depression. There is a drought of ideas. We are tearing ourselves apart.

• (1110)

I, for one, do not want this to happen. We need to bind our country together into one united Canada. The constitutional discussion revolving around the Meech Lake Accord seems to have reached an impasse. I would encourage all 11 of Canada's first ministers to reconsider their positions. There has to be a way of resolving our differences.

I would compliment the Premier of British Columbia for trying to find alternatives to bridge the gap. We must be creative. We must do our utmost to find a way to affirm who we are, and to confirm that we are all equal partners. I beseech Canada's first ministers to meet and keep meeting until this impasse is resolved.

There is a place for all provinces in Canada, just as there is a place in the provinces for Canada.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

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AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY

Mr. Jim Jordan (Leeds—Grenville): Mr. Speaker, why has the federal government repeatedly refused to challenge the national lending institutions in Canada by declaring a moratorium on farm foreclosures and by