

Oral Questions

Since 1985, however, we have discovered the need for rocket research in order to better understand and monitor the ozone layer. Since 1985, the United States itself has doubled its annual number of rocket launches. This year there have been four NASA launches in Churchill. Given the renewed interest by the North American scientific community in the use of rocket launchers, I would call upon the Government to reconsider its decision to close down the Churchill rocket range.

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[Translation]

NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY**MR. ROGER LAGASSE'S BICYCLE TOUR**

M. Yvon Côté (Richmond—Wolfe): Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute Mr. Roger Lagassé and to wish him success on the bicycle tour he plans to do across Canada. As you know, Mr. Lagassé, a long-standing member of the New Democratic Party, wants to succeed Mr. Broadbent. It was reported today in *The Citizen* that Mr. Lagassé is planning this cross-Canada bicycle tour to make himself known and to collect funds for his campaign. Himself and his NDP colleagues are strong supporters of development and environmental issues as well as other issues. I hope Mr. Lagassé will complete his tour on time and will give an example of courage, honesty and professional ethics to all other candidates who, like him, wish to participate in the leadership campaign.

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[English]

AIR TRANSPORT**STUDENT FARES**

Mr. Howard Crosby (Halifax West): Mr. Speaker, over the next few weeks, thousands of Canadian university students will criss-cross this vast country in search of summer employment opportunities. All Members of this House are well aware of the cost of travel in Canada and should ask, how can university students carry this burden of travel expense? The student stand-by fare to travel from Nova Scotia to British Columbia is \$460, \$50 more than the seat-sale price. Surely, Canada's major airlines can give students a better deal on empty seats. I call upon Air Canada and Canadian International Airlines to give students a break.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**ENCOURAGEMENT OF TRADE WITH POLAND**

Mr. Jesse Flis (Parkdale—High Park): Mr. Speaker, recently the Paris Club, of which Canada is a member, held a special session on Poland's substantial foreign debt. For over seven years, the western world has been using economic sanctions to push for reforms that they believed would enable Poland to salvage its own economy independently. The legalization of Solidarity has motivated the United States, France and Germany to accept in principle some of the responsibility for trying to ease the burden of debt that has crippled Poland for so long.

We are pleased to have the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland's People's Republic, Mr. Olechowski, with us in Canada to discuss the developments that have occurred in his country and the ways and means in which we can facilitate freer trade between our countries. Poland is seeking to reschedule its foreign debt, and we should be generous in our approach by encouraging joint ventures, promoting investment and increasing Polish imports to Canada. We look forward to the elections in June as a symbol that Poland is moving in the right direction towards economic stability and greater freedom for the people of Poland.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMS**OLD AGE PENSIONS—UNIVERSALITY PRINCIPLE**

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. It used to be that Canadians in this country who worked for 45 years and helped build our country were entitled as a matter of citizenship to the old age pension. But now more and more Canadians are telling Members of Parliament, why bother planning for retirement when the Conservative Party can change the rules at any time? To show the injustice of the Minister's proposals on old age pensions, I want to use his formula, which he cutely calls CPI-3. Using his formula, will the Minister confirm that 55 year-old Canadians whose incomes are currently \$25,000, as a result of inflation will have their old-age pension taxed back at age 80? Will he confirm that 45 year-old Canadians whose incomes are \$18,000 will, as a