

*Oral Questions*

**Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada):** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the question of the Hon. Member because it is certainly in line with discussions that are ongoing and are taking place now with senior Ministers of the Government of Saskatchewan. I am glad to be able to report to the Hon. Member that we are canvassing on an urgent basis the implications and ramifications of the decision in a very wide range. I think this is a very hopeful sign.

This is a Government that is giving leadership under the Prime Minister with respect to a very important issue. It is not taking us four or five years, as was pointed out by the Prime Minister yesterday, to try to resolve these matters. Rather, we are dealing with them on a very important and urgent basis.

Yes, we will be talking in terms of assistance that can be rendered to the Province of Saskatchewan in order to ensure that the interests of minorities are in fact protected in Saskatchewan and that the interests not only of the minorities but of all the citizens of Saskatchewan and of Canada are properly represented at the federal level.

**Mr. Gauthier:** Mr. Speaker, the question that begs to be asked is how long are these discussions going on and what happens at the end of the day.

[Translation]

## SURVIVAL OF MINORITIES

**Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier):** My supplementary is directed to the Prime Minister. Yesterday, the Premier of Saskatchewan was quoted as saying that Saskatchewan would be completely bilingual in ten or fifteen years. You yourself quoted the Premier's statement in the House yesterday. We know it has now been six years since the Constitution Act of Canada gave official language minorities the right to be educated in their own language anywhere in Canada. In Saskatchewan there are no French school boards or French schools. Six years after the Constitution Act was passed there is still no access to education in French in Saskatchewan. Why do minority groups believe . . . what does the Prime Minister have to say to minority groups? What do we have to do to make this Government understand it is time to act, to stop talking and really do something about introducing measures that will give minority groups a chance to survive in this country?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** If I am not mistaken, Mr. Speaker, the report of the Commissioner for Official Languages indicates that in recent years there has been substantial progress in Saskatchewan with respect to the use of French. I agree this does not relieve us of our responsibility as the federal Parliament, as the federal Government, to do more. That is what the Minister was referring to. We are going to use all our resources at the federal level to help the provincial government provide various services and opportunities for the linguistic, cultural and social enhancement of the Francophone minority of Saskatchewan. I think that this is

entirely in line with the results being sought by the Hon. Member.

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• (1500)

[English]

## ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

## OZONE LAYER TREATY—FORTHCOMING MEETING OF G-7 COUNTRIES

**Mr. Alan Redway (York East):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. Last September in Montreal, Canada and 30 other countries signed a treaty aimed at trying to restore the world's ozone layer which has been seriously damaged by the use of CFCs in aerosols. Five of the G-7 countries which will be meeting at the Toronto summit in June represent two-thirds of the world's use of CFCs. In the past the Prime Minister has not hesitated to raise other issues such as South Africa at economic summits. Therefore, will he undertake to raise the issue of the ozone layer treaty at the Toronto economic summit, and at the same time urge the other five countries to follow the lead of Canada and the U.S. in banning the use of CFCs in aerosols?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, Canada is of course deeply concerned by the evidence of the thinning of the ozone layer. On behalf of all Members of Parliament I want in a special way to congratulate the Minister of the Environment for the tremendous leadership he provided at the Montreal conference in this regard.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Mulroney:** He has had discussions regarding our G-7 partners concerning the matters which should be on the agenda. There is a strong view that this dimension of the environment should be considered by the participants at the Toronto summit in June. I take good note of the suggestion of my hon. colleague and will bring it forward for consideration by the other leaders at the industrialized summit.

**Mr. Speaker:** I want to advise the House that this will be the last question of Question Period.

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## IMMIGRATION

## TURKISH REFUGEE CLAIMANTS—REQUEST FOR DELAY OF DEPORTATIONS

**Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina):** Mr. Speaker, first I take this opportunity to congratulate the Minister of Employment and Immigration on her new appointment and I wish her well. I also have a question for her.