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past, and resolve to act in the interests of the health of Canadians and our environment in the future.

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TRADE**INCREASE IN SOFTWOOD LUMBER EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES**

Mr. Ted Schellenberg (Nanaimo—Alberni): Mr. Speaker, last January 19 the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner) told the House that "the 15 per cent export tax on Canadian softwood lumber being shipped to the U.S. will throw thousands of forest workers out of work, and imperil Canadian sovereignty." His Liberal colleagues agreed with him and, of course, the NDP said the same thing that day, predicting again that the sky would fall.

It is now 11 months later. Let us turn to a recent study issued by the International Woodworkers of Canada. The study says that "the massive job losses that were predicted simply have not occurred. It has had a minimal effect on production and employment. In fact, almost 900 million more board feet have been produced this year—and 600 sawmill jobs were added in British Columbia between January and September of 1987."

This is just one more example of the phoney doom and gloom the opposition Members have been spouting for three years now.

They predicted that our deficit reduction measures would cost 60,000 jobs, but we have created almost a million jobs.

They predicted that the export tax would cost hundreds of jobs, but hundreds of jobs were created. Now they are feeding us the same drivel about free trade. Once again the Progressive Conservative Government of Canada will prove the Opposition wrong.

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[*Translation*]

1994 COMMONWEALTH GAMES**GOVERNMENT'S OBLIGATION TO RESPECT CRITERIA IN MATTER OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES**

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, we all know that the Winter Games will soon open in Calgary. All Francophones outside Quebec remember they almost missed out on the right to have the Games televised in their own language. The situation was caused by the fact that the Olympic Organizing Committee ignored federal language criteria when negotiating its contracts.

In the House, I asked the Minister of Communications at the time to take steps to ensure there would be no recurrence

of this kind of situation. He replied that he agreed and that my suggestion was an excellent one.

Since the 1994 Commonwealth Games have just been awarded to Victoria and the Government has decided to investigate this choice, I want to take this opportunity to ask the Government to lay down firm guidelines to ensure that the Commonwealth Games will be held with due respect for Canada's linguistic duality, in terms of public facilities, national advertising, contract negotiations, and the broadcasting and televising of the Victoria Games.

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[*English*]

TAX REFORM**MODIFIED ACCRUAL ACCOUNTING—EFFECT ON FARMERS**

Mr. John Gormley (The Battlefords—Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, the sensitivity of the Government to western agriculture is well known. A \$1-billion special grains payment, a capital gains tax exemption, a \$200-million annual farm fuel tax rebate, and a \$1.4-billion western grain stabilization payment in the past year are just a few examples of a Government that is committed to prairie farmers.

There is, however, one current issue that has caused some concern to farmers across Saskatchewan. It is the issue of modified accrual accounting as contained in the recent White Paper on tax reform. Most farmers agree that there should be a clearer definition of a real or bona fide farmer. There is also broad agreement that the profitability requirement should be re-examined as the White Paper undertakes to do. However, it is not the best time to suggest a new and different accounting formula during this period of depressed grain prices and uncertainty in the farm community. After giving this matter a great deal of thought, I would ask that the Government reconsider the proposal to bring in modified accrual accounting.

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CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS**ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO SELL TELEPHONE COMPANY SUBSIDIARIES**

Mr. Dave Nickerson (Western Arctic): Mr. Speaker, Canadian National has announced its intention to sell off two of its telephone subsidiaries, Terra Nova Tel in Newfoundland, and NorthwesTel in the Northwest Territories and Yukon. This is to be done in order to reduce its outstanding \$3.2 billion debt.

Important to the telephone subscribers in the service areas is CN's commitment that there will be no decrease in levels of service or increase in tariffs charged. Employees are to be