

Oral Questions

conclusions? What new defence arrangements? And what about the Prime Minister's secret letter to the President concerning the Arctic? Mr. Speaker, Canadians must have answers.

* * *

THE ECONOMY

RESULTS OF WORK ON BEHALF OF WESTERN CANADIAN ECONOMY

Mr. John Gormley (The Battlefords—Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, many western Canadians have expressed concern about our economy as the industries of agriculture and oil are being hard hit by world market forces. I would like to draw attention today to the commitment and dedication of the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) and western Progressive Conservative Members of Parliament.

Before the \$1 billion farm payment and, most recently, the annual \$350 million oil program, the Prime Minister and western Conservatives worked hard to see that appropriate action was taken. In the new oil program, for example, approximately 1,000 Saskatchewan jobs will be saved and about \$100 million a year will be directed to oil production in western Saskatchewan. The Small Explorers and Producers Association says this federal program will lead to \$1 billion in new oil and gas investment in western Canada.

In a difficult economic time it is understandable to be concerned about our western Canadian economy. However, it is not reasonable to conclude that western Canada is not receiving a great deal of attention and financial assistance from the Government. The West is a top priority of Brian Mulroney.

* * *

[Translation]

1988 WINTER OLYMPICS

DEMAND FOR FRENCH RADIO BROADCASTS NATION-WIDE

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, today I would like to talk about the awarding of English and French broadcasting rights for the 1988 Winter Olympics.

As we know, the Calgary Olympic Development Association awarded the rights to CTV and TVA. The 1988 Winter Olympics Committee has decided to go along with a proposal that we find unsatisfactory, because neither CTV nor TVA are in a position to broadcast in French nation-wide.

I want to stress the fact today in the House that, since Canadians have invested \$200 million, they have a right to receive the 1988 Winter Olympics in French outside Quebec, where TVA has no network, and on radio as well. However, all Canadians, whether they are Anglophone or Francophone, will

be deprived of the possibility of listening to live reports on radio.

It seems to me highly irregular that this Government is unable to pressure the CBC, our own Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, to provide broadcasting in French and English on radio, and in French on television, across Canada.

* * *

[English]

HUMAN RIGHTS

U.S.S.R.—PLIGHT OF DANYLO SHUMUK

Mr. Vince Dantzer (Okanagan North): Mr. Speaker, I rise again, as I have many times in this House, to bring to the attention of the House the plight of Danylo Shumuk, a Soviet dissident. Although the officials of the Soviet Union have indicated their wish to democratize and improve relations with western nations, their actions belie their words. It may be that a red leopard has as much difficulty changing its spots as has one of more traditional colour.

Danylo Shumuk, following the expiration of his sentence in January, has once again been placed under administrative surveillance and thus has been denied permission to emigrate to Canada. This surveillance includes a nightly curfew, tri-monthly reporting to the authorities, the requirement to remain at his exile site rather than his home in Russia, and other forms of obscure and obscene harassment. It must be emphasized that Danylo Shumuk is 72 years old, in fragile health, and every month of added exile is jeopardizing his survival and his long held goal to reunite with his relatives in Canada.

● (1420)

I urge the Government of Russia to release this man to his relatives in Canada on humanitarian grounds.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

CULTURE

CANADA-UNITED STATES TRADE NEGOTIATIONS—U.S. SENATOR'S STATEMENT

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, Canadians are becoming frustrated that the Prime Minister repeatedly fails to protect Canadian sovereignty and Canadian culture. On December 9, Senator Matsunaga and three other senior United States Senators had meetings here in Ottawa with the Prime Minister and some of his cabinet colleagues. The very next day, December 10, the Prime Minister told me in the House of Commons that he had made it clear to all four American Senators that Canadian culture