

*Oral Questions**[English]*

Let us hope that award winners and nominees alike will be an inspiration for others wanting to become environmentally responsible citizens.

We can all contribute to this worthwhile effort by nominating constituents who are making concerted efforts to protect and restore the environment.

\* \* \*

**THE REFORM PARTY**

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell):** Mr. Speaker, let me ask the House the following skill-testing questions. What is the name of the party that preached listening to people and then proceeded to vote against a measure approved by business, government and natives in the Yukon Territory?

What is the name of the party that professed to do parliamentary business in a different way and then used Harvie Andre and Erik Nielsen tactics?

What is the name of the party that professed to cut costs and government waste and then proceeded to delay the parliamentary committee by 16 hours with points of order and clarification and repetition, thereby wasting \$13,000 taxpayer dollars?

Give up? It was the Reform Party of course. It is time for a recall.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member for Saskatoon—Clark's Crossing. Is that the right one?

**Mr. Taylor:** The Battlefords—Meadow Lake, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** That is close enough.

**Mr. Taylor:** Yes it is. We are neighbours.

\* \* \*

**TRANSPORT**

**Mr. Len Taylor (The Battlefords—Meadow Lake):** Mr. Speaker, I think the Minister of Transport should resign. In recent days he has demonstrated a complete lack of understanding of the western grain economy and in doing so he has completely ignored the history of the transportation debate which time and time again has proven the support for the Crow benefit among the people it most affects.

In a country as large and diverse as Canada our government should be looking at developing a national transportation policy that supports and not penalizes those who depend on transportation for their livelihood.

If the minister wants to stay in transport then he should be thinking about ways in which his department can help those who depend most upon it. If the minister will not review and renounce his position on eliminating the Crow benefit then he

should step aside and let someone who knows western Canada and cares about transportation take over.

**ORAL QUESTION PERIOD***[Translation]***INTERPROVINCIAL TRADE**

**Mr. Yvan Loubier (Saint-Hyacinthe—Bagot):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. The latest information on the status of intergovernmental negotiations to eliminate interprovincial trade barriers points to mediocre results. Yet, on May 6, Canadian Press reported that an agreement was imminent and even that a nearly complete draft agreement would be given to the provincial trade ministers at their meeting in Winnipeg on May 9 and 10.

My question to the Prime Minister is this: Can he tell us if the June 30 deadline set by his government to reach an agreement is still valid and if the agreement, if there is one, will really eliminate interprovincial trade barriers?

**Right Hon. Jean Chrétien (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, we are quite confident that an agreement will be reached by June 30 and that it will be substantial.

**Mr. Yvan Loubier (Saint-Hyacinthe—Bagot):** Mr. Speaker, does the Prime Minister not realize that, given the serious reservations expressed by several provinces and by Quebec, the agreement announced by the federal government may be timid and full of major exemptions and amount in essence to an empty shell?

**Right Hon. Jean Chrétien (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, we are consulting the provinces. They have their jurisdiction, we have ours and we are working toward an agreement that will satisfy all the parties involved. We strongly favour the elimination of as many interprovincial trade barriers as possible in Canada. Some provincial governments are reluctant, however, and I am surprised that the hon. member from the Bloc Québécois is blaming the Liberal government for being too nice to the provinces.

**Mr. Yvan Loubier (Saint-Hyacinthe—Bagot):** Mr. Speaker, given, one, that the forum on health has been postponed indefinitely; two, that the Minister of Human Resources Development is going it alone by trying high-handedly to impose a reform of social programs on the provinces; and three, that the so-called agreement on the elimination of interprovincial trade barriers may worsen interprovincial relations instead of improving them, does the Prime Minister not realize that, after three months, his government's record on federal-provincial relations is a dismal failure?

• (1120)

**Right Hon. Jean Chrétien (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I am very surprised by the question because in matters of trade, we have our federal jurisdiction. We could impose things, but we do not want to do so. The Constitution clearly states that it is a federal responsibility. While we want to respect the provinces'