

*Oral Questions***HUMAN RIGHTS****YUGOSLAVIA—PLIGHT OF DOBROSLAV PARAGA**

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Mississauga South): Mr. Speaker, Dobroslav Paraga is a young Yugoslavian who protested the human rights problem in that country. For that protest he was arrested and jailed for five years. When released he protested the torture inflicted on him by the state. As a result of that protest he was again arrested and prosecuted. It was only because of the excellent lawyer he had and because of ill health that the prosecution was temporarily stayed. I call on the Government of Yugoslavia to respect human rights as all Governments should respect human rights.

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ROAD SAFETY**AUTOMOBILES—USE OF REAR SEAT THREE POINT SAFETY BELTS**

Mrs. Thérèse Killens (Saint-Michel—Ahuntsic): Mr. Speaker, again today I want to put on the record a letter I received from Dr. Acker, President of the Medical Society of Nova Scotia. The letter deals with the need for three point safety belts for rear seat passengers. The letter reads:

Congratulations and thank you for your comments to the House February 11, 1987 concerning the need for increased safety measures for rear seat passengers. Your observations about the added safety provided by three point safety belts are quite correct.

The Medical Society raised this question a year ago. We pointed to the concern, noted that a mere handful of imported cars use the three point harness and reminded government of its commitment to car safety. Regrettably, no action has been taken by any government in Canada.

We have come a long way in vehicle safety, and we urge government to take the next logical step. We already require seat belts in our cars, let's require that those seat belts be the most effective.

Again, thanks for bringing this important matter before the House. Hoping your remarks will lead to action—

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**ACID RAIN—UNITED STATES PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. It is becoming evident that the Government's acid rain strategy has failed so miserably—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Caccia:—that even getting President Reagan to live up to a year-old commitment is considered by the Prime Minister to be a very significant movement. We are now locked in a five-year research and demonstration program which will not benefit our dying lakes, forests, and eco-systems because there

is no commitment to cut acid rain entering Canada. As Michael Perley of the Canadian Coalition on Acid Rain put it, "clean coal technology isn't the solution to the problem... Emission reduction is the key".

My question is simply this. What will the Prime Minister be bargaining for at the next summit on Canada's behalf?

• (1420)

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, what we will do at the summit is continue the results of yesterday which constitute a very significant step forward in the fight against acid rain. We will continue that. Surely anyone who cares about the environment and understands anything about the devastating impact of acid rain on the environment, and appreciates the total absence of activity in regard thereto over the last 20 years, will celebrate yesterday's events but recognize that we have a long way to go. It is a tough road, but we will stick with it and we will clean up the environment.

Mr. Caccia: It seems quite clear that anything is good news to a Party that is ten points behind the third Party.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

PRIME MINISTER'S POSITION

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, the essence of what happened yesterday is that the Prime Minister has given up his bargaining position with the President by accepting with open arms the President's position three weeks before the summit. He has given up his bargaining position. When will the Prime Minister muster enough courage to demand what Canadians are asking for, namely, acid rain cuts that are significant to Canada, with percentages, with target dates, and with emission reductions?

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, my friend refers to polling data. I just remind him that when Prime Minister Turner called an election he was leading by 14 points in the Gallup Poll and, 53 days later, something strange happened.

Mr. Gauthier: Are you going to call one? Call it.

Mr. Mulroney: Are you interested?

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Axworthy: Right now. Let's go!

Mr. Mulroney: I would do it, Mr. Speaker, but I am worried about their pensions.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An Hon. Member: You don't qualify yet, Brian.

Mr. Speaker: I remind the Right Hon. Prime Minister that the question was on acid rain.