

*S. O. 31*

The market for softwood lumber has weakened in the past several months and Canadian inventories of softwood lumber have increased dramatically. If current trends continue, we are facing lay-offs and shutdowns of many sawmills throughout northern Ontario this winter and the loss of thousands of jobs.

I call upon the Canadian Government to initiate negotiations immediately with the United States Government to eliminate this devastating tax on our softwood lumber exports to the United States which is going to cost us thousands and thousands of jobs throughout northern Ontario.

\* \* \*

[*Translation*]

## SPORTS

### NINTH WORLD CUP CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING CHAMPIONSHIP—TRIBUTE TO ORGANIZERS

**Mr. Charles DeBlois (Montmorency—Orléans):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to speak for the first time as the new Member for Montmorency—Orléans about a sporting event of international stature, that is the ninth Master's World Cup of Cross-Country Skiing which will be held in my riding at Mont Sainte-Anne from February 26 to March 4, 1989.

A team of volunteers is finalizing arrangements for this prestigious event which is being held for the very first time in North America, thanks to our Government's financial support.

I want to pay special tribute to the principal organizers of the event, namely Yvan Couillard, Claude Brunelle, Roméo Mailloux and, of course, Honorary Chairman, athlete Pierre Harvey.

I wish them the best of luck in staging the World Cup which should improve Quebec's standing as a tourist destination which hosts prestigious international winter sporting events!

[*English*]

## ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

### ARCTIC POLLUTION—CALL FOR TREATY NEGOTIATIONS

**Ms. Audrey McLaughlin (Yukon):** Mr. Speaker, the lives of the peoples of the far North are at risk. Uncontrolled use of pesticides, chemicals, and toxic substances in the Soviet Union and Europe has brought pollution to the Arctic which threatens the food supply of the Inuit. Action is needed now. Canada must show leadership.

In the Canada and Polar Science Report of May, 1987, it was stressed that Canadian participation in the International polar research had suffered badly from a want of consistency, preparation, and a sense of purpose. Not only do we not have a sense of purpose, we now have a crisis on our hands.

The source of pollution must be determined and removed. I call upon the Government to fulfil its commitment immediately to constitute the Canadian Polar Research Commission and to commence circumpolar negotiations for an Arctic pollution treaty.

\* \* \*

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

### BURMA—SUPPORT URGED FOR RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY

**Mr. Jim Edwards (Edmonton Southwest):** Mr. Speaker, in recognition of the great ground swell of support for the return of democracy in the Socialist Republic of Burma and of the need for national reconciliation, I call upon all members of this place and all Canadians to voice their support for the people of Burma and their efforts to restore human rights and democracy in that country, to condemn the killings and mass arrests in Burma, and to call upon the Burmese army and police to exercise restraint and respect for human rights.

I urge the Government of Canada to continue to publicly condemn the killings and mass arrests by the Burmese army, to further encourage the restoration of democracy in Burma and an end to one-party rule, and to persist in raising the issue of human rights and national reconciliation in its meetings with Burmese officials and in international organizations.