

*Oral Questions*

[Translation]

**ACID RAIN****OPPORTUNITY TO INVITE AMERICANS TO PRESSURE THEIR REPRESENTATIVES**

**Mr. Gabriel Desjardins (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, the Special Committee on Acid Rain has just returned from Washington, where, during two days of intensive sessions, the Committee met with major U.S., environmental groups and with senators and members of the House of Representatives who are involved in the fight against acid rain.

The message brought by our delegation was very clear: Stop polluting us, act on your promises and reduce pollution-causing emissions.

Mr. Speaker, everyone the Committee met insisted that the pressure put by the Prime Minister of Canada (Mr. Mulroney) on the President of the United States was to have encouraging results. In fact, a number of Bills are now on the table, and if any of these were to be passed, it would be a great victory for Canada.

However, much remains to be done, and the Americans gave us a very clear message that our Government and Canadians should continue to put strong pressure on the U.S. Administration.

Mr. Speaker, why do we not take advantage of the summer holidays to urge all the Americans we meet to put pressure on their elected representatives? That is the only way we are going to win.

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[English]

**ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS****ACID RAIN—CRITICS OF CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT**

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill):** Mr. Speaker, one of the things that the Special Committee on Acid Rain learned while in Washington was that those who were least in favour of the Canadian view that acid rain control legislation should be put in place by the United States Congress are the ones who are most in favour of the agreement signed between the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) and President Reagan with respect to the funding of clean coal technologies. I think this irony should be pointed out to the House and particularly to the Prime Minister.

It is the enemies of acid rain control legislation who are the greatest fans of what the Prime Minister and the President agreed to in April. It is those who are in favour of acid rain control legislation in the United States Congress who are the greatest critics of the clean coal technology program and that

which the Prime Minister and the Government are in the habit of lauding.

I would ask the Prime Minister and Members on the government side to rethink the enthusiasm with which they often portray what has been achieved between the Prime Minister and the President and to be willing to go beyond that and be critical of their own agreement so that they can be the real allies of our real allies in the Congress.

**ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**

[English]

**CANADA POST CORPORATION****LETTER CARRIERS' STRIKE—REQUEST THAT MEDIATOR BE APPOINTED**

**Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Canadians want their mail delivered. Instead, the Prime Minister has provoked a strike of the letter carriers and has done nothing to resolve it.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** Hon. Members might not like the truth, but by limiting the manoeuvrability of Canada Post to negotiate in terms of what it can settle for, he has provoked this strike.

Since the two sides are now talking and since both sides have called for a mediator, will the Prime Minister reverse the decision of the Minister of Labour and appoint a mediator immediately before the crisis and the violence get out of hand?

[Translation]

**Hon. Pierre H. Cadieux (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, as I pointed out last Tuesday, it was decided not to appoint a mediator because the parties had not shown enough flexibility at that time. I am delighted to see that, today, the parties are back to the negotiating table, and I strongly urge them to reach a settlement.

[English]

**HIRING OF UNEMPLOYED AS STRIKE-BREAKERS**

**Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition):** That is not sufficient, Mr. Speaker. I would say to the Prime Minister once again that he is playing politics with the Post Office.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** I warn him he is playing with fire because the Post Office is using the unemployed in an attempt to break the strike. If this matter worsens the Prime Minister will be responsible for what happens.