

The agreement represents a great achievement for Nobel Peace Laureate Lech Walesa and the Solidarnosc movement. They have shown enormous courage and determination over the last several years, and it is very gratifying, indeed, to witness their success.

What has occurred in Poland reflects other changes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union that the Canadian Government has yet to respond to adequately in its analysis of East-West relations. We urge the Canadian Government to do some new thinking of its own.

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RED CROSS

ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF ARMENIAN EARTHQUAKE

Mr. Bill Attewell (Markham): Mr. Speaker, I visited Soviet Armenia last week, along with three Canadian Armenian leaders. I want to praise the Red Cross for their vital assistance following the disastrous earthquake on December 7, 1988, in which 50,000 to 100,000 people lost their lives.

We visited several areas, including the town of Spitak which was totally destroyed. Of the 50,000 persons who lived there, approximately 20,000 perished.

The Canadian Government contributed \$5 million through the Red Cross and Canadians donated clothes and medical supplies and other assistance totalling almost another \$10 million.

The real need now is for homes. Five hundred thousand Soviet Armenians are homeless. Many are living in tents and shacks. Winter is only six months away. I urge the Government and Canadians to give further assistance.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LEBANON—REMOVAL OF FOREIGN ARMIES URGED

Mr. Mac Harb (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, today I call for an end to the suffering in Lebanon. The people of Lebanon have endured 15 years of war, destruction, violence and terror.

Civil war has broken out, and once again we are witnessing the effect that the occupation of foreign military forces are having on this already devastated country.

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I am therefore calling upon the Canadian Government to continue to exercise a leadership role in peacekeeping by pressing for the withdrawal of all foreign military forces currently occupying Lebanon, with the exception of the United Nations Forces.

[Translation]

Like all other nations, the Lebanese people should have the right to cultural independence and self-government without any outside influence. Now is the time to put an end to the slaughter!

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

BILL C-74—IMPORTANCE OF IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS

Mr. Denis Pronovost (Saint-Maurice): Mr. Speaker, for the second time in less than three months, the Belgo pulp and paper mill in Shawinigan has been responsible for a major discharge of pollutants into the Saint-Maurice River.

This mill, Mr. Speaker, is recognized as one of the worst polluters in the whole country.

Parliament passed Bill C-74 respecting the protection of the environment in May 1988. I now ask the Minister to implement as soon as possible the necessary regulations to make this act truly operational. Time has come for uncooperative corporations to toe the line. It is also our duty to do so. This is precisely the task which the government will tackle in the coming weeks with a firm commitment on this issue.

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[English]

CANADA POST CORPORATION

CALL FOR APPOINTMENT OF ROYAL COMMISSION

Mr. Len Taylor (The Battlefords—Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, today the Minister responsible for Canada Post received a letter from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers citing cases of worker harassment and severe inefficiencies within the postal system.

In that letter CUPW called for a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the management practices, accessibility, quality and level of service in the Canada Post Corporation.

I and my colleagues in the New Democratic Party, Mr. Speaker, are well aware of the problems facing the people who work for Canada Post and the people who receive the services of Canada Post.