

## ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

### TOXICOLOGY CENTRES—NEED FOR FUNDING

**Mr. Don Ravis (Saskatoon East):** Mr. Speaker, environmental damage is one of the greatest threats to our health and safety. We urgently need a national program to monitor and advise on the effects of toxins in our environment.

The National Research Council called for the establishment of Canadian toxicology centres at Laval, Toronto, Guelph, and Saskatoon. These would assess environmental damage caused by contaminants such as industrial waste, pesticides, and radioactive materials. The centres would also advise on the effects of exposure to various toxins, and conduct research to find solutions.

The toxicology centre at the University of Saskatchewan in my constituency is under construction. Federal assistance is needed to complete this vital facility. However, cuts to toxicology funding announced in November, 1984, jeopardize the future of Saskatoon's toxicology centre, and all other centres in Canada.

I am all for reducing the deficit and restraining Government spending, but if the cost of deficit reduction threatens our environment I must urge the Government to rethink its cost-cutting measures.

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[Translation]

## CANADA PENSION PLAN

### PROVINCIAL BORROWINGS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Epp) sent us a press release announcing changes in the Canada Pension Plan. Unfortunately, while the Minister announced premium increases for both employees and employers, he did not raise premium levels. Furthermore, the Government failed to announce any changes with respect to the amounts owed by the provinces to the Canada Pension Plan. The provinces' debt to the Plan totals nearly \$30 billion. Ontario's share is \$15 billion and Quebec owes \$15 billion.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that before this legislation is passed, all Members of this House will make sure that the changes in the Canada Pension Plan will benefit employees and stop the provinces from living off the employees of this country.

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## LABOUR RELATIONS

### SITUATION OF CERTAIN WORKERS IN TÉMISCAMINGUE RIDING

**Mr. Gabriel Desjardins (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I rise in the House today to defend the interests of the workers

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in my riding. Since my constituency is right on the Ontario border, hundreds of mainly forestry workers, who live in Quebec, carry out their trade in the province next door, and over the years many have unfortunately had accidents at work which often disabled them for the rest of their lives. They have therefore become totally dependent on the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Board and its decisions.

Mr. Speaker, these workers feel they are being treated like second-class citizens, without any consideration whatsoever. Often, their files and correspondence with the Board are in English only, and the decisions it makes are unsatisfactory.

Mr. Speaker, speaking on behalf of these workers who are helpless and do not know where to turn, I would urge the Ontario Minister of Labour to treat these people with a little more dignity and justice. These people have sacrificed a part of their lives and their health in Ontario and are claiming the legitimate right to be considered on the same level as all other citizens of this country. And I would like to say to these workers that they can always count on their Member to defend their interests.

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[English]

## TRADE

### THREAT TO CANADIAN LUMBER EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES

**Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River):** Mr. Speaker, on November 23, 1985, I wrote the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) urging him to go to whatever lengths were necessary to protect our lumber industry from actions of the U.S. Congress. I received an acknowledgement but, of course, no response.

It appears that rather than taking some form of action the Prime Minister relies upon his personal relationship with the President of the United States, putting all his eggs in one basket. His actions have clearly failed us.

Over a thousand jobs in Kenora—Rainy River are at risk. McKenzie Forest Products in Hudson exports 90 per cent to 95 per cent of its product to the United States. Great Lakes Forest Products in Dryden exports 95 per cent to the United States. Boise Cascade Stud Mill in Kenora exports 75 per cent of its product to the United States. Countervailing tariffs being initiated in the U.S. on forest products will cost far more lumber jobs than the forest fires presently raging in North-western Ontario. The Government has to undertake a trade information campaign in the U.S. and take our case directly to the people of the United States. Why will the Prime Minister not get on the telephone now and—