

*Oral Questions*

Today in many nations, individuals are denied their basic human rights, rights which all Canadians take for granted. The Jews and Christians of Russia, the Baha'is of Iran, the Tibetans of China, and all the political dissidents held by the dictatorships of Africa, Asia, South and Central America and the Caribbean have only one hope, the hope that we parliamentarians in the free world must not let the world forget their plight.

Today, Mr. Knanh Le-Kim, President of the Vietnamese Buddhist Association of Toronto, is meeting with Ambassador Lewis in New York to bring him abreast of the religious persecution in Vietnam. We can never let our guard down even if there is only one individual left in the world who is being denied any right. Only when individuals in all societies enjoy all their basic human rights can man finally claim that he has advanced from prehistoric times.

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**DISARMAMENT**

U.S.A.—U.S.S.R. AGREEMENT—INFLUENCE OF PEACE MOVEMENT

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill):** Mr. Speaker, as we contemplate events in Washington this week, I think it would be appropriate for all of us to remember the role various peace movements have played in coming to this particular point in human history.

The peace movement is often reviled, both in the East and the West, by the political leadership of those countries, and sometimes by Members opposite, but it is a fact that the peace movement has been that source of creative tension and criticism, that leaven within the loaf that is very important in keeping political leaders always rethinking their positions on these crucial issues that affect the future of planet Earth.

I think we should remember this with respect to the peace movement here in Canada, in Europe and in the United States of America, but we should also remember those within the Soviet Union and Eastern Bloc countries who often have to work under even more difficult circumstances.

We know that here, CSIS and other organizations keep an eye on the peace movement and regard its activities not as essential but as disloyal. We also know that in the Soviet Union and East Germany, Christian peace activists are from time to time harassed and rounded up and life is made difficult for them. Let us keep them in mind, and let us keep in mind that the peace movement on both sides of the so-called divide is very, very important and not unconnected to what is happening in Washington today.

**TRADE**

CANADA-UNITED STATES TRADE AGREEMENT—EFFECTS ON NORTHERN MANITOBA

**Mr. George Minaker (Winnipeg—St. James):** Mr. Speaker, the report prepared for the Canada West Foundation on the effects of free trade on Manitoba clearly indicates substantial benefits for the province from free trade and severe economic disruption if protectionism in the United States continues unchecked. Of particular interest in the study is the section dealing with northern Manitoba. It points out that jobs are threatened in the North and says:

Northern Manitoba would be the most adversely affected region in Manitoba in the event of increased U.S. protectionism.

Due to the high concentration of employment in resource industries which are largely dependent on access to the U.S. market, communities such as Thompson, Flin Flon and Lynn Lake would be devastated by any U.S. actions which would restrict exports such as nickel, copper, zinc and gold.

The Canada-U.S. free trade agreement assures and enhances access to the U.S. market. Given these facts, it is astonishing to consider the position of the NDP Member for Churchill (Mr. Murphy) who opposes the free trade agreement.

Even NDP MLAs from northern Manitoba are against the agreement. By following their anti-American ideology, they are selling out the best interests of northerners. Their constituents will not forget!

**ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**

[English]

**HEALTH**

TOXIC MUSSELS—TIME OF TESTING

**Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, seven times on Monday the Minister of National Health and Welfare accused the Opposition of making false allegations about the toxic mussels. On Tuesday the Minister accused the Opposition six times of making false allegations about the toxic mussels.

The truth is that the Minister of National Health and Welfare has misled the House of Commons and has misled the people of Canada and must answer some serious questions on matters that have now put the lives of Canadians at risk.

What did the Minister say? He said that Dr. Todd received these samples from Prince Edward Island at 8.15 p.m. upon which testing began that evening, Saturday. Dr. Todd said on television:

We received the samples about noon on Friday and we got an answer late in the afternoon that there was a reaction present in these animals.

Will the Minister explain that contradiction to the Canadian public and to Parliament? Will he admit his complete failure to protect Canadians from poisoned mussels?