

*Oral Questions*

**Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby—Kingsway):** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the Prime Minister's undertaking to look into how a full public inquiry into this matter can in fact take place. However, I want to ask the Prime Minister a supplementary question, not with respect to the history of 25 years ago but today.

Will the Prime Minister finally ensure that the Canadian Human Rights Act is amended to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation, to ensure that the Canadian Armed Forces ends its witch-hunts which take place today in Canada, and to ensure that never again will this kind of outrage be perpetrated on any Canadian and that Canadians will be judged on their merit, not on their sexual orientation?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I have to point out to my hon. friend that I did not undertake to look into a full public inquiry, but I commend him on his fast action in regard to that. I undertook to consult with the secretary of the cabinet and to examine how this matter could most appropriately be handled.

In regard to the question for the future, my hon. friend refers to the Human Rights Act. For my part I believe that anything that discriminates against anyone's rights in any way, any discrimination of any kind, is unacceptable in a pluralistic society such as ours.

The Minister of Justice and others are examining these matters very carefully to see what we can do to advance the cause of the elimination of discrimination in Canada.

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**CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS**

**Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport.

Out of 1,700 employees employed at the Transcona shops in Winnipeg, CN's major repair facility, another 97 employees are about to be cut. This is another cut in a series of cuts which has been bludgeoning Manitoba, haemorrhaging jobs away from Manitoba.

Will the minister confirm that this additional cut in jobs is a direct result of this contract of \$40 million for 25 locomotives which was given to the United States?

**Hon. Shirley Martin (Minister of State (Transport)):** No, Mr. Speaker.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface):** Mr. Speaker, I will ask the unemployed whether they agree with the minister. My supplementary is directed to the same minister.

A \$40 million contract to build 25 locomotives went to the United States, while other major contracts went elsewhere. Thousands of jobs were lost in Manitoba because of this government's poor policies, including the Free Trade Agreement, the GST, and so forth. When will this government take the necessary action to save the jobs at CN and help other Manitobans who are looking for work today?

[*English*]

**Hon. Shirley Martin (Minister of State (Transport)):** Mr. Speaker, any loss of jobs of course is regrettable, but CN has the commitment to Manitoba and to Winnipeg. As a matter of fact, Canadian National does employ some 5,200 people in Manitoba and 4,700 of those jobs are in Winnipeg.

• (1450)

As a Crown corporation with the responsibility of spending taxpayers' money wisely, it is restructuring and doing what is necessary to maintain a good railroad service in this country for not only Canadian passengers but also for its transportation of goods and services.

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**FISHERIES**

**Hon. Roger C. Simmons (Burin—St. George's):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans.

The European community fisheries commissioner has talked to a Spanish publication about the European overfishing off Newfoundland. Let me quote him: