

*Oral Questions*

difficult questions and that it takes a great deal of leadership to build a country in terms of the realities we all accept.

Personally, I would ask, as Prime Minister and, I assume, speaking on behalf of all Members of this House, I would ask the Members of the Alberta Legislative Assembly, which, if I am not mistaken, has Conservative, NDP and Liberal Members, to intervene, to join in the same spirit of generosity and openness of mind in seeking an honourable solution to this thorny issue and especially, to do so with full consideration for the interests of minorities, because as far as we are concerned, minorities are to be protected and respected. I think this is entirely normal and in line with our most fundamental values.

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● (1450)

[English]

**NATIONAL PARKS**

## ESTABLISHMENT OF SOUTH MORESBY AS NATIONAL PARK

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, my question and, I would hope, congratulations are for the Prime Minister. It appears that the unanimous voice of Parliament has been heard out west. British Columbia, as I understand it, has accepted the \$106 million federal offer to designate South Moresby as a national park reserve. There are two added conditions, which I wish to put to the Prime Minister, both of which I think are achievable.

One, the B.C. Government wants the federal Government to open a Parks Canada Pacific region office in Vancouver, which I think is reasonable and needed; second, that the federal Government hold discussions with British Columbia on a ferry subsidy for British Columbia.

Will the Prime Minister accept this settlement in general since essentially the main components are those given in writing by the Deputy Prime Minister to Premier Vander Zalm two weeks ago?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, when the Hon. Member announced the settlement I was wondering whether he had had a call that I had not had.

While there has been a lot of work done—and we have been making some progress—there has been no settlement. I spoke with the Premier of British Columbia today. We hope to continue to make progress but the matter has not been resolved. There are outstanding issues with which we are attempting to deal. We have made progress in some substantial way but much remains to be done. I think the original comment by my hon. friend was perhaps premature.

## PRESS CONFERENCE HELD BY BRITISH COLUMBIA PREMIER

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, just prior to Question Period I received a call from a senior federal

government official who advised me that the Premier, as is often the case in British Columbia, had held a press conference regarding this matter, that he has accepted the \$106 million federal offer and the only other two conditions which B.C. wishes to have met are totally achievable and reasonable.

Will the Prime Minister address himself to those in the House? Is he prepared, which I understand Parks Canada is, to open a Pacific region office in Vancouver, and hold discussions with B.C. regarding ferry and transportation matters in the Province of British Columbia?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, not being a British Columbian I did not know that successful negotiation depended upon catching the Premier's scrums. We have been in close touch—

**Mr. Broadbent:** It does.

**Mr. Mulroney:** It does?

**Ms. Mitchell:** You have got it, brother.

**Mr. Mulroney:** That is probably why he has been so successful.

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

**Mr. Mulroney:** We have had very good dealings with the Government of British Columbia. This is a very important national issue which has been treated as such by the Government of British Columbia and by the Government of Canada. We have made, as my hon. friend knows, some substantial progress. There remains some obstacles which we hope to overcome. We are pursuing this vigorously very much in the national interest. As I indicated, I had another conversation with the Premier just about an hour or an hour and a half ago, and no doubt we will talk again.

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**PUBLIC SERVICE**

## STATUS OF BILL C-35

**Mr. Barry Turner (Ottawa—Carleton):** Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the President of the Treasury Board. It concerns the status of Bill C-33, an Act to amend the Public Service, Armed Forces, RCMP and Supplementary Retirement Benefits Acts which Bill was first read in the House in December, 1986. It is certainly an important issue in the national capital region and I am sure throughout all ridings in the country.

Since I have had many representations from individuals and unions on this important matter, will the Government move forward early in the fall with the Bill as it now exists, or does the Government intend to make any changes to the Bill?