

Why is it that the Minister of Transport continues to do nothing for about the illegal Oldman dam despite a clear direction from the Supreme Court of Canada for him to do his duty pursuant to the Navigable Waters Act. That reservoir should be ordered drained by the minister, and he knows it and yet he does nothing. Why is the Minister of Agriculture doing nothing about the risk of disease transfers from game farms to wildlife? Does he really support shooting wild elk to protect them from catching diseases from game farmed elk.

Something stinks about the inaction on environmental issues in Alberta and the smell seems to be political.

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[Translation]

MORDECAI RICHLER

Mr. Gilles Duceppe (Laurier—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, Mordecai Richler has struck yet another blow at Quebecers. According to this author, the people of Quebec form a tribe whose elite is but a self-destructing force, we are suffering from collective paranoia and owe our emancipation to English Canada.

As a Quebecer, I cannot condone racist comments and a bunch of lies such as these. It is unacceptable. It is unfortunate that such an individual should call himself a Canadian. Mordecai Richler must be exposed and I hope that leaders in English Canada and in the Jewish community will join in denouncing this consummate racist with a totally decayed mind.

Mr. Richler is a racist of the worst kind who smears Quebec's reputation abroad by peddling one lie after another. If a Quebec nationalist were to write something like that about another nation or minority, I bet it would cause an uproar in Canada. Canadians must speak out. They either denounce his action or they are his accomplices.

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[English]

JEWISH STUDENTS' NETWORK

Mr. Jim Peterson (Willowdale): Mr. Speaker, 60 young men and women from the Jewish Students' Network are with us in the House today. They have come from

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Victoria, Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, London, Waterloo, Guelph, Toronto, Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax and Israel. They have come to protest the plight of Syrian Jews who are denied basic rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in Syria's own Constitution. They cannot emigrate, vote, work for the government and are subjected to harassment, police surveillance, arbitrary arrest and imprisonment.

All parliamentarians applaud you, the dedicated students from Network, in your fight for human rights. We join with you in protesting these callous abuses by Syria and in calling on President Assad to end them. This Saturday as the Jewish community throughout the world observes Shabbat Zachor, the Sabbath for remembrance of oppressed Jews, we will remember with you, for oppression is not a Jewish issue, it is an issue for all mankind. We will not forget.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

PEARSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Transport.

The government has announced that it is rushing ahead with plans to privatize terminals 1 and 2 at Pearson airport, an airport that makes a \$100 million profit every year. The airline, the province, the regional governments say: "We do not need it".

I want to know from the minister why he is going ahead with this when everyone says that it is not needed. Why does he want to give \$100 million of profit to the private sector at the expense of the government?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Corbeil (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, in 1988 and 1989, Pearson airport was so congested that everybody suffered unacceptable consequences. The indications concerning the traffic at Pearson over the next few years tell us that we will again experience a similar situation in 1997-98 unless changes are made. So we are preparing for the future. We have confidence in