

Oral Questions

many British Columbia businessmen were on these trips and they encouraged me to proceed.

ELECTION CAMPAIGN STATEMENT

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops-Shuswap): Madam Speaker, it is very difficult for me to remain calm when I hear responses as vague and convoluted as that.

When the Prime Minister toured Kamloops in 1980 he said to the people of Kamloops and the people of Canada that every Canadian citizen has a right to a job. Was the Prime Minister of Canada lying, or was he demonstrating today that he does not give a damn about the people of Canada? And should they be giving him the same salute he gave the people in Salmon Arm?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, of course they are free to act as they want; I hope it will be a little more rational than the Hon. Member.

Mr. Riis: How did you behave with them in Salmon Arm? You gave them this finger.

Mr. Trudeau: Madam Speaker, if the Hon. Member wants to ask a supplementary I will—

Madam Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Clark: Invite him outside, Pierre.

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[Translation]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF MR. MARTIN MALVY, VICE-PRESIDENT, AND MR. CHRISTIAN LAURISSESGUES, DÉPUTÉ QUESTEUR, OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF FRANCE

Madam Speaker: I have the honour of drawing the attention of the House to the distinguished presence in our gallery of Mr. Martin Malvy, Vice-President of the French National Assembly, and Mr. Christian Laurissegues, député questeur, accompanied by a delegation of parliamentarians.

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[English]

THE HANDICAPPED AND THE DISABLED

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN FORMATION OF HANDICAPPED PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Since there are many communities throughout Canada which have disabled people, and there are people in those areas who would like to form voluntary organizations to assist these unfortunate people, is her Department providing any assistance, physical or financial, to assist in the formation of such

organizations, since a check with some of the officials in her Department has produced negative results?

[Translation]

Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Madam Speaker, the answer is yes, we give direct and material assistance as well as financial contributions. Perhaps the answer in this particular case was negative if it happened to be the end of the year and our budget was exhausted. Perhaps the Hon. Member—

[English]

Perhaps the Hon. Member should give me the specifics of the dossier and I will look into it. It may well be that this year's budget is exhausted and we did not have enough money.

[Translation]

However, we shall do our best, and I would like to make it clear to all Hon. Members that we give what we can, which is never enough, but just the same, the help is there for organizations for the disabled.

[English]

ROLE OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Madam Speaker, has the Minister given consideration to working out an arrangement with the provincial Governments whereby some financial assistance might be forthcoming from them at least to provide seed money for these voluntary organizations?

[Translation]

Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): The Government of the Province of Saskatchewan is a Conservative government, if I remember correctly, the same party as the one to which the Hon. Member belongs. Perhaps he could speak to them directly. In fact, the Constitution clearly states that this is the direct responsibility of the provinces. We provide additional assistance. In fact, if we want to help experimental projects, we often have to do it in a round-about way when we provide funds for direct delivery of services. As a result, it is really very difficult for me to do more than what the provinces should be doing under to the Constitution. If the Hon. Member could give me some specific cases, I would be happy to write directly to my counterpart in Saskatchewan.

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[English]

STANDARDS COUNCIL OF CANADA

APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Madam Speaker, I was wondering if I should turn around and ask the Minister of Justice this question, but my question is actually directed to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.