Presence in Gallery

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF MINISTER FOR FOREIGN TRADE, OF THE NETHERLANDS

Madam Speaker: I would like to draw the attention of Hon. Members to the presence in our gallery of the Hon. J. W. Bolkestein, Minister for Foreign Trade, of The Netherlands.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF MR. HONORIUS LACOMBE, EDITOR OF FRENCH DEBATES

Madam Speaker: I also wish to draw the attention of the House to the presence in our gallery of Mr. Honorius Lacombe, Editor of the French Debates, who is retiring today after seventeen years of dedicated service with the House.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Madam Speaker: I am sure that Hon. Members will be very grateful to him for continuing the tradition of publishing an objective report of the Debates of this House.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[English]

GARRISON DIVERSION

IMPACT OF U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VOTE

Mr. Jack Masters (Thunder Bay-Nipigon): Madam Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Employment and Immigration. Could the Minister, who has been very involved in trying to stop the Garrison Diversion Project, inform the House of the impact for Canada of the vote in the U.S. House of Representatives last evening which, in effect, suspended funding for Garrison?

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An Hon. Member: It has nothing to do with his responsibilities.

Madam Speaker: I am quite sure that is not under the purview of the Minister's administrative responsibility, having been in that Department which is responsible.

POLITICAL PARTIES

RECRUITMENT OF LIBERAL PARTY MEMBERS—USE OF CITIZENSHIP COURT JUDGES

Mr. John Bosley (Don Valley West): Madam Speaker, in the absence of the Secretary of State I will direct my question to the Prime Minister. It is pursuant to a question asked yesterday by the Hon. Member for Brampton-Georgetown. Yesterday the Prime Minister indicated that he would take notice of the question that was asked and that he would answer today. He knows that the Minister of State for Multiculturalism has already given his view on this matter when on "Canada A.M." today, in describing the use of Citizenship Court judges to recruit Liberals, he said "if that helps them think that the Liberal Party is a good Party that cares about them, I am pleased with that."

• (1430)

The document distributed by the Liberal Party at its Convention says very clearly that the purpose of the meetings using Citizenship Court judges is not only just to explain citizenship, but to "bring potential Members of the Liberal Party into contact with established Liberal associations". Will the Prime Minister indicate, Madam Speaker, whether that is a policy on the use of the judiciary which the Prime Minister of Canada supports?

Hon. Jim Fleming (Minister of State (Multiculturalism)): Madam Speaker—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Fleming: As I pointed out yesterday, if trade unions, church groups and others are encouraged to ask Citizenship Court judges to describe to groups they bring together what it means to become citizens, then I think a political party should be encouraged to do that, if that helps people to better understand the political process, what citizenship is all about, understanding politics and voting in elections.

INDEPENDENCE OF JUDICIARY

Mr. John Bosley (Don Valley West): Madam Speaker, if we cannot get an answer from the chief Minister, perhaps I could direct my question to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General. Will the Attorney General, the Minister of Justice for Canada, tell me whether, in his view, it is reasonable for the judiciary to be used in Canada to, "bring potential Members of the Liberal Party into contact with established Liberal associations"? Is that a tradition of the independent judiciary as he knows it?

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Minister of Justice): Madam Speaker, I think that is just another way of asking the same question which my colleague has just replied to.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!