

the humour they have brought to our political campaign, then they will continue to exist as well.

Mr. Douglas Fisher (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, this is the second opportunity I have had to speak on precisely this kind of a Bill. The last time was when the Hon. Member for Mississauga South (Mr. Blenkarn) introduced the same motion. Do you know, Mr. Speaker, that last night in a committee the Hon. Member for Mississauga South stood up and demanded an election. I said to him: "How can you have an election? Your Party has got to have a leader". He said: "Don't you worry about that, my Party has lots of leaders." Now my question to him is, if he is ready to tolerate some nuisance candidates—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): Order. I should inform the Hon. Member that it is not proper to refer in this House to proceedings in a committee until the report has been received in the House.

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): The Hon. Member for Joliette (Mr. La Salle) on a point of order.

Mr. La Salle: Mr. Speaker, I would point out to my colleague that, even without a leader, the Gallup poll still rates us 11 points ahead of the Government.

[English]

Mr. Fisher: Mr. Speaker, the point of my little parable, out of order though it might have been, is that if the Hon. Member for Mississauga South is so willing to tolerate so many nuisance candidates in his own Party, why does he want to cut them off for the general public? I cannot understand. I can tell you that in my riding the people who were categorized as nuisance candidates were very often more impressive than some of the people currently running for the leadership over there.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I must say, to my regret, that I disapprove of this Bill. I do not think it is good enough to disqualify someone because he is considered to be a nuisance by someone else. I also think that openness should be a standard in our democratic process and not some kind of closure and discouragement of voters or candidates. Finally, I would like to say that appearance and reality are both important in the democratic system, and if we appear only to be reducing the number of candidates or favouring the big Parties, then we will just be eroding our own base and credibility as a democracy.

I am curious to know what it is that creates a barrier for someone to run as a candidate. I think the size, geography and population are as important as the system itself. It seems to me that the various regulations that we could have here, the number of dollars that you have to put up and so on, are not as important as the number of people or the quality of debate. I

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would like to emphasize that the quality of debate declines when the number of people in a riding goes up.

So, Mr. Speaker, I have just risen in my place to say that debate in my riding is harmed because my riding is too big, and we have to get redistribution if we want to improve the quality of debate and give every Canadian a full opportunity to be heard. That is all I want to say.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): Order, please. Pursuant to Standing Order 24(2) it is my duty to interrupt the proceedings. However, before passing to other items of business today, the Chair would once again draw the attention of Hon. Members to Standing Order No. 15(3), which reads:

When a Member is speaking, no Member shall pass between that Member and the Chair—

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): Shall all orders listed under Private Members' Notices of Motions preceding No. 67 be allowed to stand by unanimous consent?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

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[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

Mr. Ian Watson (Châteauguay) moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, as a means to attaining a permanent solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, the government should consider the advisability of promoting, in international forums, a global settlement which would contain the following proposals:

1. Creation of a sovereign strictly neutral Palestinian state comprising the West Bank and Gaza strip contingent upon

(a) P.L.O. recognition of Israel and renunciation of all further claims and approval by a majority vote of Palestinians living in the West Bank and Mid-East refugee camps;

(b) the legal right of Israel to investigate within the new state, in accordance with pre-established procedures, suspected breaches of neutrality and the legal right to intervene militarily if neutrality is found to be breached;

(c) a monetary settlement of all claims of displaced individuals resulting from the 1948 Arab-Israeli War to be paid out of a special Palestine Refugee Compensation Fund to which the industrialized world would contribute;

(d) pledges for sufficient aid from the industrialized world and OPEC to raise the standard of living in the new Palestine State to the level of that in Israel within 8 years, contingent upon commitment by the new state to adhere to development plans and programs established by the World Bank;

2. UN sovereignty over Jerusalem carried out by a permanent UN trusteeship comprising the United States, USSR, China, the United Kingdom, France, Saudi Arabia and Israel, the membership of which could not be changed even by the UN without the unanimous consent of trusteeship