

Routine Proceedings

ought to be considered by hon. members and ought to be remedied.

In the meantime with this particular case and keeping in mind the matter raised by the hon. member and the fact that clearly there is here a breach of the rules and the sensitivities of the hon. members and the sensibilities of the hon. member's petitioners, I think the appropriate thing at least for today is to ask the parliamentary secretary to address the House tomorrow and see if there is some explanation at least. That may not fully satisfy the hon. member or hon. members, but at least for today that is where I would like to leave it.

• (1510)

HOCKEY CANADA—SPEAKER'S RULING

Mr. Speaker: On Monday, February 1, 1993 the House leader of the Official Opposition rose on a question of privilege regarding a question asked during Question Period on Friday, December 11, 1992. As this was the last Question Period before the House rose for its Christmas recess the hon. member for Cape Breton—East Richmond has raised this matter at the first opportunity. I would like to thank him and the Solicitor General for their interventions on this matter.

In his presentation on Monday last, the House leader of the Official Opposition noted that on December 11, 1992 he had put a question to the Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport asking the government to provide the complete financial statements for Hockey Canada since its incorporation. The then Minister of Justice, responding on behalf of her colleague the Solicitor General, stated:

—this matter is currently being investigated by the RCMP. The Government of Canada will offer no further information until the RCMP has concluded its investigation.

Subsequently, on December 17, 1992, Mr. Ian Macdonald, chairman of the board of Hockey Canada, issued a press release stating that the financial records of Hockey Canada were not under investigation by the RCMP. It was from this discrepancy of fact that the question of privilege was raised by the hon. member for Cape Breton—East Richmond.

[*Translation*]

The situation was cleared up when the Solicitor General, in response to the question of privilege, indicated that it was National Hockey League Players' Association that was being investigated by the RCMP, and not Hockey Canada, which is fully co-operating with the RCMP in this investigation. In the Solicitor General's absence, the hon. Minister of Justice had taken the matter under advisement, to deal with the situation, which was not fully understood at the time. As the Solicitor General has now been able to clear up the situation, it is obvious that there was no attack on the House and that this is not a case of contempt of Parliament.

[*English*]

I would like to thank the hon. member for Cape Breton—East Richmond for raising this matter and also the Solicitor General for clarifying the situation.

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GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO PETITIONS

Mr. Jim Edwards (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36(8), I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the government responses to 43 petitions.

[*Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

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[*Translation*]

PETITIONS

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Mr. Jean-Guy Hudon (Beauharnois—Salaberry): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Rev. Douglas E.W. Lennox, pastor of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Huntingdon and Athelstan, I am pleased to present three petitions that come mainly from the municipalities of Dundee in my riding, Huntingdon, Athelstan and Saint-Anicet, and concern violence against children and women.

These petitions contain a number of signatures and I would like to thank the clergyman for his hard work on this cause and tell him more specifically that the newspapers and media are often criticized for spreading this violence. I must tell you that it is thanks to them that we know more about it.