

*Government Orders*

[Translation]

## MIDDLE EAST

**Mrs. Marie Gibeau (Bourassa):** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by 412 people to present on behalf of the students of Polyvalente Henri-Bourasse who are concerned about the effects of the war on their future. These high school students are asking us to look actively for peaceful solutions to the diplomatic stalemate in the Middle East to allow them to keep faith in dialogue and in life.

Mr. Speaker, the war may be over but there are still problems in that part of the world. A solution will have to be found that is satisfactory to all concerned if we want it to be lasting. In the name of my constituents, I urge the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for External Affairs and all members of Cabinet to pursue their efforts, using the influence gained by Canada among the members of the United Nations, to identify and implement means of ensuring durable peace for our young people.

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• (1540)

## QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

**Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons):** Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** Shall all questions be allowed to stand?

**Some hon. members:** Agreed.

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[English]

## MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

**Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons):** Mr. Speaker, I ask that all notices of motions for the production of papers be allowed to stand.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** Is that agreed?

**Some hon. members:** Agreed.

## GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

## BORROWING AUTHORITY ACT, 1991-92

## MEASURE TO ENACT

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-97, an act to provide borrowing authority, as reported (without amendment) from the Standing Committee on Finance.

**Hon. Barbara McDougall** (for the Minister of Finance) moved that the bill be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

**Mrs. McDougall** (for the Minister of Finance) moved that the bill be read the third time and passed.

**Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke):** Mr. Speaker, as we start the third reading on this borrowing bill, I am sure that most of us in this House of Commons realize that the greatest issues facing this nation today is national unity and of course the recession.

This borrowing bill allows the government to raise money under the Financial Administration Act:

—by way of loan or by the issue and sale of securities of Canada, in such amount or amounts not exceeding in the whole twenty-six billion, four hundred million dollars, as may be required for public works and general purposes.

At the outset, I want to say to the Minister of Finance that when he stated during the 1984 election campaign that it would not be necessary to raise taxes to cut the deficit because all that needs to be done is cut government expenditures, he was laying the groundwork for his own financial management failure.

Since that time, not only has the government cut government services but the Minister of Finance has raised taxes 33 times. The last big tax hike was the GST. What is very discouraging to all Canadians is that in spite of all the cuts and the tax increases, the national debt is still growing by leaps and bounds. Financial management on the part of the government appears to them to be out of control.

Added to this is the longstanding and ongoing concern about the national unity of our country. This does nothing to create confidence in the economy of our nation, and that is sad. It is also sad that we are in the middle of a government created recession.