

Petitions

levied on Commonwealth students, as distinct from the scholarship system?

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to look at that approach but I am not convinced it is the best way to deal with the difficult problem relating to tuition fees; not simply in relation to Commonwealth scholars but others as well.

With regard to New Delhi, there is no specific initiative which is planned at this moment by way of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Speaker: I will allow one more question given the shortness of that last question and answer.

Mr. Keeper: Mr. Speaker, we on this side obviously welcome the increase in the number of scholarships and we welcome the Minister's statement on Commonwealth Day.

I would like him to comment with regard to the question of the cuts in aid the Government has undertaken and the consultations it is carrying on regarding our aid policy, particularly as it reflects the notion of tied aid. The document on consultation seems to propose that aid should be tied to economic benefits for Canada. In order to demonstrate the depth of his commitment to development generally and in Commonwealth countries in particular, can he comment on the suggestion that aid should be tied rather than using the more effective route, which is to have aid which meets the priorities of the country receiving it?

● (1530)

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure that it is appropriate for me, on Motions, to comment on aspects of consultation papers which are in circulation. Let me say that, in addition to the consultation papers that are now in circulation, there will be at least two parliamentary opportunities, of which I hope full advantage will be taken, to discuss fully the question raised by the Hon. Member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Keeper). One will be when the Estimates of CIDA come before the standing committee. The other will be when the green paper, which I am preparing as a basis for the first public parliamentary discussion of international policy in our history, is available to Parliament.

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PETITIONS

RELOCATION OF NATIONAL DEFENCE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES IN OTTAWA-CARLETON

Mr. David Daubney (Ottawa West): Mr. Speaker, I rise to present a petition on behalf of several hundred civilian employees of the Department of National Defence in the Ottawa-Carleton area. Approximately 2,200 members of the Department located at various locations in the city of Ottawa are scheduled to be relocated to the outskirts of Hull in the near future.

The petitioners are suggesting that insufficient attention has been paid by the appropriate authorities to the cost of this move and the effect on efficiency and employee morale, and ask that the House ask the appropriate officials to reconsider this move.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Ron Stewart (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 39 and 131.

[Text]

COMPUTER CRIME

Question No. 39—**Mr. Howie:**

Did the Government undertake, or has it initiated in the current fiscal year, any studies relating to the effect of computer crime or measures to combat it and, if so (a) were these studies carried out by outside consultants (b) in what time frame were the studies to be conducted (c) was any amount allocated to the studies and, if so, what amount?

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Justice): In 1984, two bills containing proposed amendments to protect the integrity of computer systems were introduced in the House of Commons; Bill C-19 the proposed Criminal Law Reform Act, 1984, on February 7, 1984, and Bill C-18, the proposed Criminal Law Reform Act, 1984, on December 19, 1984. Following the tabling of both bills, consultations were held by the Department of Justice and public inquiries were received concerning these proposals. Costs were assumed within the normal fiscal and person-year allocations of the Department of Justice.

Following a recommendation of the Parliamentary Report of the Subcommittee on Computer Crime, June, 1983, a federal-provincial study on the legal protection of trade secrets and commercial information was initiated in February, 1984 to determine the type of legal protection that should be afforded in this area. Canada and the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Alberta and Saskatchewan are represented on the study, which is being chaired by the Province of Alberta. The study is to deliver its interim report at the next meeting of Deputy Attorneys General responsible for criminal justice. Costs at the federal level were assumed within normal fiscal and person-year allocations, except for the payment of \$8,189.20 to an outside contractor for the preparation of a research report and consultative services on the criminal misappropriation of trade secrets. The report was prepared between June 4 to August 31, 1984 and a consultation occurred on November 19-21, 1984.