

before, I would like to know—and understand—why and how your Government and the Government of Ontario waited so long before intervening?

Hon. Suzanne Blais-Grenier (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, I think that the situation in Kenora is now under full control. Yesterday I called a conference of provincial Ministers and we have decided to have an emergency meeting to see to it that in the future the provinces will accept their responsibilities in connection with PCB waste disposal.

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[English]

TRUST COMPANIES

PIONEER TRUST—UNINSURED INVESTMENT CERTIFICATES

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance in the absence of his colleague, the Minister of State for Finance. It concerns the collapse of Pioneer Trust last February in Regina. I have in my hand a copy of an application form for an income averaging certificate, from a Saskatchewan farmer. It states on this application form that his application was insured by the CDIC. The seal is here. It says "application for a six-year annuity". I also have an application for a seven-year annuity with the same insurance stamp of approval. This man later found that he was not insured because CDIC does not insure these kinds of investments for more than five years.

● (1500)

Since I already gave this information to the Government over three weeks ago, can the Minister explain why the Government has not acted to reimburse the hundreds and perhaps thousands of innocent depositors like this man in Saskatchewan, who put a considerable amount of savings into these certificates, thought they were insured, but found later on that they were not? Why has the Government not reimbursed these people?

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member knows that the Minister of State for Finance has been dealing with this matter and has had discussions with certain members of the Hon. Member's own Party as well as with people from the Government of Saskatchewan. When the Minister returns to the House I will bring the matter to her attention. I am sure she will be dealing with the matter forthwith.

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CLERK OF PETITIONS' REPORT

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the petition presented by the Hon. Member for Nanaimo-Alberni (Mr. Schellenberg) on Wednesday, April 24, 1985, meets the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

Privilege—Mr. Witer

PRIVILEGE

REPLY OF MR. MULRONEY DURING QUESTION PERIOD

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to raise a question of privilege. The Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney), in an answer he gave during the Question Period which just ended, said that an associate of Chester Burt in the firm of Biolink was a former executive assistant of mine. If the Prime Minister will check, he will find that he was in serious error because the individual in question was never my executive assistant. He was a departmental assistant and served in that capacity as a public servant. Therefore, he was not an exempt staff member. That is a very different matter. In this particular matter I think the Prime Minister has made a serious error for which he should return to the House to apologize.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member has a fact he wishes to present to the House. However, it is clearly not a question of privilege, and I think he knows that.

I now recognize the Hon. Member for Parkdale-High Park on a question of privilege, of which he has given me notice.

ADVERTISEMENT IN UKRAINIAN NEWSPAPER BY FORMER MEMBER

Mr. Andrew Witer (Parkdale-High Park): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. This is the first opportunity I have had to bring to your attention an advertisement which appeared in the April 6 to 13, 1985 issue of the newspaper *Vilne Slovo*, a paper circulated in Toronto. The advertisement was placed on behalf of the former Member of Parliament for my constituency, Parkdale-High Park. In the advertisement, Mr. Jesse Flis is identified as the Member of Parliament for Parkdale-High Park and a constituency office address and telephone number are listed. The advertisement is in Ukrainian and the English translation is as follows:

Christ has risen—With the Holy Holiday of the resurrection of Christ, sincere best wishes to all Ukrainians in Canada and specially to the readers of the "Free Word" from: Jesse P. Flis, (Member of Parliament for Parkdale-High Park).

Referring to Maingot's *Parliamentary Privilege in Canada*, pages 21 and 22, I found the following:

A person ceases to be a Member of the House of Commons when the Speaker addresses his warrant to the Chief Electoral Officer for the Issue of a Writ for the Election of a new Member.

By the same token, Maingot states on page 20 and 21:

In Parliamentary Practice, the entry in the special edition of the Canada Gazette by the Chief Electoral Officer of the name of the person set out in the return commences the official existence of the member.

Under these definitions, Mr. Flis ceased to be a Member of Parliament once the Speaker had addressed his warrant for the last election and I commenced my duties as a Member of Parliament when my name was entered in the special edition of the *Gazette*. In fact, I think it can be argued that Mr. Flis ceased to be a Member at the dissolution of the last Parliament and since he did not succeed in being re-elected, there