

Order Paper Questions

PROHIBITION WITH REGARD TO KNIVES

Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, once again I rise to present a petition with respect to the problem of killings and injuries as a result of people carrying knives.

I have petitions from residents of Burnaby, Surrey, Langley, New Westminster, Vancouver, and Richmond, British Columbia, as well as from other cities across the country. I hope the Minister of Justice (Mr. Hnatyshyn) will respond.

The petitioners state that whereas the incidents of crimes committed with knives, including murder, robbery and sexual assault, are on the increase in all major cities across Canada, and the federal Criminal Code and court decisions allow citizens to carry knives, and whereas the carrying of knives by persons in public places is directly responsible for a variety of crimes, therefore these petitioners call upon Parliament to amend the federal Criminal Code to prohibit the carrying of knives by citizens in public places, except for those where knives are an integral part of legitimate work or carried for religious reasons, such as with the Sikh religion.

RESEARCH INTO PREVENTION AND CURE OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to table a petition in the name of some 200 constituents. They ask the House of Commons to encourage further research into schizophrenia because it is a major illness in Canada affecting about 1 per cent of the population, causes severe mental anguish and suffering to the patients and their relatives, and costs Canadian society more than \$3 billion annually.

The petitioners state that recent research findings obtained in Canada have shown the illness to be a biochemical brain disorder, in part caused by genetic malfunction. Schizophrenic patients, their relatives and friends desperately hope that a cure and method of prevention can be found as soon as possible through larger research efforts dedicated to schizophrenia.

Whereas the research effort in Canada dedicated to schizophrenia is very small and not commensurate with the seriousness and cost of the illness in Canada, the undersigned petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to make sure that the research efforts on schizophrenia in the future will be commensurate with the seriousness of this illness in Canada.

NORTHERN TAX ALLOWANCE

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 106, I am pleased to have an opportunity to present a petition on behalf of a number of constituents. They are concerned about the way the Government has handled the determination of those areas eligible for northern residents tax benefits. They see no rhyme nor reason for which communities are in and which are out, particularly those south of 55.

They are asking that Parliament declare all communities in what it calls Tier 3 ridings across Canada eligible for the northern residents deduction.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of State and Minister of State (Treasury Board)): 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.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

The House resumed from Wednesday, May 4, consideration of the motion of Mr. McMillan that Bill C-74, an Act respecting the protection of the environment and of human life and health, be read the third time and passed, and the Motion of Mr. Hawkes:

That this question be now put.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): When the House rose yesterday there were four minutes remaining for questions and comments on the speech by the Hon. Member for Regina West (Mr. Benjamin).

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, I listened with interest when my hon. friend was making a delightful presentation on the environmental protection legislation. He has been a Member of the House of Commons for a number of years and has seen successive Liberal and Conservative administrations. In fact, he will be celebrating his twentieth anniversary here in just a few days.

Today we are debating the environmental protection Bill brought forward by the Government. While we plan to support it because it is a small step forward, will he pass some judgment on why we have waited so many years to debate the introduction of an environmental protection legislation? What have successive Conservative and Liberal administrations done in this regard?

Mr. Benjamin: Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for his question and his comments about my twentieth anniversary here. I wish I looked and felt 20 years old. My hon. friend is perfectly correct that I have seen Governments and Ministers of Environment come and go.