

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, November 2, 1989

The House met at 11 a.m.

Prayers

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

CANADIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

TABLING OF ANNUAL REPORT

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to lay before the House, in both official languages, the 1988-89 annual report of the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

* * *

PETITIONS

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Government House Leader): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36(8), I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the government's response to several petitions.

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

* * *

ORDER IN COUNCIL

TABLING OF APPOINTMENTS AND REFERENCE TO STANDING COMMITTEES

Hon. Jean J. Charest (Minister of State (Youth) and Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table, in both official languages, a number of Order in Council appointments which were made by the government, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 110(1).

MEMBER OF THE SENATE

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, I have circulated a motion to all sides of the House, a motion which in essence would be calling Senator Cogger to attend the bar of the House.

I simply want to say that since this session began in April there have been approximately 70 motions that have passed during routine proceedings without proper notice being given, based on unanimous consent and without debate.

I think we would agree that consent is given on dozens of occasions in any month to suspend rules of the House in order to let bills receive report and third reading on the same day, to dispense with the bells for votes and to apply votes. I think it is fair to say that hundreds of times the opposition parties have been asked for unanimous consent. We have always given it because we recognize that consent is appropriate in providing good government and for the effective and efficient business of the House. We realize that this place only works as a result of co-operation on all sides.

I think it is appropriate that I ask today—and this is the first time in 10 years that I have asked for unanimous consent—to present a motion and to pass it without debate. I do not want to take up important time of the House. I do not want to disrupt any aspect of routine proceedings. We are anxious to get on with the debate of the day.

I am asking my colleagues in both the official opposition and as the government to provide unanimous support to allow this motion to be put without debate.

• (1110)

Hon. Jean J. Charest (Minister of State (Youth) and Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the hon. House leader for the New Democratic Party for having given me a copy of the motion that he is now putting before the House.