

Meaning my colleague, the hon. Minister of the Environment (Mr. Roberts), who is responsible for Parks Canada.

—thought the same.

That statement is totally incorrect, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Order, please. I am sorry to have to interrupt the hon. minister but I made a ruling on that question of privilege yesterday. I would have needed notice in order to entertain the remarks that the hon. minister has to make.

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POINT OF ORDER

MR. S. ROBINSON—NOMINATION OF MEMBERS FOR STANDING JOINT COMMITTEES

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Madam Speaker, my point of order is with respect to the appointments to be made by this House to the joint parliamentary committees of the other place and the House of Commons. I am concerned members of the other place have for some time now had their nominations put forward for those committees and that this House has not taken any action to appoint our nominees.

There are a couple of committees which we are particularly concerned about, including the Joint Committee on Regulations and Other Statutory Instruments which has a very heavy work load and which should be getting under way in the very near future. I have requested on several occasions the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Collette) to take this matter in hand and I have received yet another note that the matter is possibly going to be dealt with next week. I would hope that we could deal with some dispatch with this important question.

● (1520)

Mr. D. M. Collette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council): Madam Speaker, it is correct that I did inform the hon. member today that we hoped within the next week to make nominations from the House of Commons to these special joint committees and I would ask for the hon. member's patience. There has been a lot of work going on in the last week or so in the organizing of the House. It is not our intention to delay, and we hope within the next week that everything will be sorted out.

Veterans Affairs

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING GUIDELINES

Hon. Yvon Pinard (President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, as the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) undertook to this House a fortnight ago, I should like to table in his name, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 41(2), copies in both official languages of correspondence which the Prime Minister has sent to all ministers and parliamentary secretaries concerning this government's conflict of interest guidelines.

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VETERANS AFFAIRS

DELEGATION TO THE NETHERLANDS ON THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Madam Speaker, I would like to remind hon. members that May 5 is the thirty-fifth anniversary of the liberation of Holland. Those five dark years of oppression through the Second World War came to an end for that country, but at the cost of thousands of Canadian lives.

I shall lead an official delegation to The Netherlands from May 2 to 9. This delegation will include four senior Second World War Canadian military commanders and representatives of the Royal Canadian Legion and National Council of Veterans Associations. I will also have with me two members of the Senate, two members of the House of Commons and one winner of the Victoria Cross, the Commonwealth's highest decoration for gallantry during the liberation. We will renew the bonds of friendship and respect which have linked the Dutch and Canadian people for well over a generation. We will also share with our Dutch friends deep feelings of sadness for the more than 7,000 young Canadian servicemen who died in that struggle of 35 years ago and now rest in Dutch soil.

The passing years cannot erase in our minds the memory of those gallant men who paid, with their lives, the cost of those great ideals which our countries have come to share and stand for: democracy, freedom and justice.

We can find comfort in the knowledge that Canada's sacrifice from every province of our country and that of thousands of Dutch people during those years was not in vain. The people of Holland rose from the ashes of their war-devastated country to great heights of renewed nationhood. Since that time, 35 years ago, Holland and Canada have enjoyed a fruitful, rewarding relationship, a relationship which will continue to blossom just as The Netherlands Royal Family's annual gift of tulips does here in Ottawa each year around this time.

The links and memories that unite us are strong. We will ensure that they are never allowed to fade. We must also be vigilant to see that the ideals for which Canada fought, and