

Oral Questions

ROLE OF PRESIDENT OF LIBERAL PARTY IN PRESENTATION OF CHEQUES

• (1500)

Mr. G. M. Gurbin (Bruce-Grey): Madam Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Is the Minister aware that the President of the Liberal Party of Canada has been giving cheques from the Government to interested parties, on behalf of the Liberal Party of Canada?

Hon. Herb Gray (President of the Treasury Board): Madam Speaker, I am sorry, I was not aware of that. Certainly the circular in question talked only about the presentation of cheques on behalf of the Government by MPs if they are designated by the responsible Minister.

REQUEST FOR MINISTERIAL ACTION

Mr. G. M. Gurbin (Bruce-Grey): Madam Speaker, if I am able to provide proof of this action to the Minister, will he take corrective action so that the Liberal Party does not profit from the Government's activities?

Hon. Herb Gray (President of the Treasury Board): Again without accepting the premises of my hon. friend's question, I would be very happy to get any details he has and look into his question so that appropriate action can be taken.

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CHARTER OF RIGHTS

APPLICATION TO UNBORN CHILD

Mr. David Kilgour (Edmonton-Strathcona): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. Department of Justice counsel in the Regina abortion case has taken the position on national television that the new Charter of Rights gives no rights whatsoever to the unborn child. Will the Minister tell the House if he agrees and if that was his instruction? Does he agree that an unborn child, until the time it comes out of the mother, has no more rights than, for example, a blade of grass?

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Minister of Justice): Madam Speaker, the counsel in the case in Regina to which my hon. friend refers is taking the position that the law becomes relevant at the time of birth, and the evidence as to the state of life before that time is not relevant to the particular issue which is on trial in that case. This is based on a great deal of precedent and it is, of course, for the court to weigh that case. My hon. friend may wish to weight it, but right now it is being argued before a court. I would not want to pronounce on it and I do not believe my hon. friend should be pronouncing on it while it is under consideration.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITION

MR. KORCHINSKI—NUCLEAR ARMS RACE

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Madam Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition signed by 27 members of All Saints' Church in La Ronge in the Province of Saskatchewan who are concerned that the increasing danger of nuclear war and the building of ever more destructive weapons, if used, would threaten the very survival of human life on this earth. These people pray and call upon this Honourable House to urge the Government to renounce all present and future involvement in the nuclear arms race and turn every effort to the attainment of peace, giving positive leadership through Canada's Ambassador for disarmament in the United Nations.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

NOTICE OF ALLOCATION OF TIME TO CONSIDER SECOND READING STAGE OF BILL C-155

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Madam Speaker, I wish to inform the House that there have been consultations among the representatives of the Parties and that it has not been possible to reach an agreement pursuant to Standing Order 80 or 81 with regard to the allocation of time to the second reading stage of Bill C-155, an Act to facilitate the transportation, shipping and handling of western grain and to amend certain Acts in consequence thereof; and that therefore at the next sitting of the House, I shall propose a motion pursuant to Standing Order 82 to allocate one sitting day to the said stage of the said Bill.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. David Smith (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 4,775, 4,776 and 4,792.

[Text]

CALLOUT PROGRAM AT CFB GAGETOWN

Question No. 4,775—**Mr. Howie:**

1. For the fiscal year (a) 1980-81 (b) 1981-82 (c) 1982-83, how many militia personnel were employed under the callout program at CFB Gagetown, New Brunswick?

2. For each year, how many militia personnel were on callout for a term of six months or less at CFB Gagetown?