

S. O. 31

[English]

Thank you, Ben Wicks and congratulations.

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NATIONAL JUNIOR/JUVENILE JUDO CHAMPIONSHIPS

Hon. Roger Simmons (Burin—St. George's, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, the National Junior/Juvenile Judo Championships were held in Newfoundland this past weekend for the first time in 20 years. The town of Stephenville, in my riding, played host and did an absolutely bang-up job. I was there to help them celebrate the spirit of this tremendous sporting event.

Three hundred competitors from all 10 provinces took part, including Jeremy Delaney, Eric Hynes, Gary Lasaga and Jeff Pollard, all from Stephenville.

Newfoundlanders take great pride in their team, which captured its very first gold medal in a national judo competition. Congratulations to everyone, including Aden White, William MacNeil, Della McIsaac, Rodger Farrell, the athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers. For Aden White especially, it was a dream come true. Well done all.

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SECURITY SERVICES

Mr. Leonard Hopkins (Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the House of Commons Security Services which celebrate their 75th anniversary this year.

It was in 1920, following an act of Parliament, that the House of Commons protective staff was created to protect the parliamentary institution, its members and the precinct. This force has since grown into the efficient, effective and professional force we know today. Both proactive and reactive, the House of Commons Security Service has continuously aimed to provide the excellent service to which we have become accustomed.

The men and women of the security staff are continuously faced with the almost impossible task of providing security in such a way as not to limit or impede public access into the buildings, while ensuring on the other hand that sufficient security is present to adequately protect members of Parliament, employees, visitors and tourists in a period when crime and terrorism are on the increase.

As an honorary member of the security services I invite all members to join with me in wishing them a happy 75th anniversary as well as many more years of success.

• (1410)

[Translation]

QUEBEC REFERENDUM

Mrs. Pauline Picard (Drummond, BQ): Mr. Speaker, not only has the "No" side nothing to offer Quebecers in the upcoming referendum, but more importantly, the Liberal Party in Quebec has begun to shun Quebec's traditional claims.

Federalists have offhandedly dismissed four of the five conditions set during the Meech Lake negotiations, at the time considered to be a bare minimum by the Liberal Party, and now propose to promote Quebec's development and to define its place in the Canadian federation through obscure administrative agreements.

Administrative agreements have never been used to acknowledge a people's existence or to grant them the powers they need to develop. The Liberal Party is not proposing "quiet affirmation" but more a strategy of "quiet resignation".

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[English]

RWANDA

Mr. Jack Frazer (Saanich—Gulf Islands, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, ethnic dissension again erupted in Rwanda on Saturday as the world witnessed yet another massacre of thousands of Hutu refugees by Tutsi government soldiers.

Previous, smaller group killings of Rwandan refugees have given clear notice that it was only a matter of time before Saturday's massacre would occur. Yet once again, the world and the United Nations stood by, only able to watch helplessly as these events unfolded before our eyes.

In this 50th anniversary year of the United Nations, events such as this make it critically vital that international communities work together to agree to reform United Nations structure and procedures to enable the UN to respond effectively at short notice so that atrocities such as the tragic massacre witnessed this weekend will become a thing of the past.

In the meantime, the international community should ensure that those responsible for perpetrating this horror are identified and punished. Only in this way can it be made clear that the world cannot and will not accept such behaviour.

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[Translation]

VIOLENCE

Mr. Patrick Gagnon (Bonaventure—Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, the week that just drew to a close was