HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, December 9, 1992

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[English]

KITTY NOWDLUK-REYNOLDS

Mr. Jack Iyerak Anawak (Nunatsiaq): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the RCMP Public Complaints Commission for recognizing the grave injustice done to Kitty Nowdluk–Reynolds by our very own justice system. The commission's report agrees with Kitty and with the views of many of us who followed the horrific details of Kitty's ordeal.

After suffering a violent sexual attack, Kitty was subjected to a further assault by an insensitive and callous justice system. The victim was again victimized. She was forced to serve the needs of a criminal justice system. The system did not provide for her needs.

I want to commend Kitty for her courage and determination, for not allowing the justice system to go unchallenged and for exposing the flaws and deficiencies within the justice system to the scrutiny of all Canadians.

The justice system failed Kitty. I urge the government to act immediately to make the changes necessary to ensure victims of crimes are not victimized again by the very system which is supposed to help and serve them.

Happy birthday, Kitty. Thank you for what you have done on behalf of all victims of crime in this country.

ILLEGAL DRUGS

Mr. Bill Attewell (Markham—Whitchurch—Stouff-ville): Mr. Speaker, drug smuggling is a serious problem in Canada as it is throughout the world.

A few weeks ago, we were successful in bringing down a joint Canadian-Columbian drug operation in Casey, Quebec. I applaud the work of the officials who seized \$2.7 billion worth of cocaine and closed down a drug lab in Laval.

The government must get even tougher in its strategy to end drug smuggling and the entire illegal drug trade in Canada. We must ensure that local police forces which are burdened with costly drug-related investigations are compensated for their efforts.

I call upon the Solicitor General to introduce legislation that will allow municipalities to share in the proceeds from drug seizures.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr. Lyle Vanclief (Prince Edward—Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have news for the House which might come as a shock to many members present but certainly came as no shock to me.

The two Ontario counties which constitute my riding have reported record increases in welfare applications. In fact, Hastings county reported the largest single increase in welfare case—load in the province of Ontario. Prince Edward county had the dubious honour of being in the top 20.

Despite the Minister of Finance's statements, I knew our area was being hit hard by a recession that will not quit. The sky-rocketing numbers of unemployed in the Quinte area are still reeling under its ravaging effects.