

Point of Order—Mr. Althouse

eliminating the flourishing white-collar crime committed by unscrupulous lawyers and consultants operating out of Toronto and Montreal?

Hon. Gerry Weiner (Minister of State (Immigration)): Mr. Speaker, the visa is a mechanism to provide access to those who should be legitimately seeking our shores. I sympathize, and I have said very clearly that it is my intention to go after, in a very heavy way, those consultants who have been causing innocent Portuguese citizens to make misleading statements. There is an RCMP investigation going on and it is not appropriate for me to comment on that investigation. I do not want to prejudice the investigation or the legitimate rights of all claimants to a fair and just hearing.

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TARIFFS**BOOK AND MUSIC TARIFF**

Ms. Lynn McDonald (Broadview—Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance and concerns a new wrinkle in the Government's book tariffs which will now include a tariff on music at an even higher rate by making the base price the sales price even in the case of rented music. Will the Minister not agree to respond to Canadian music lovers and readers who have protested by the thousands this very misguided policy, and agree to revoke the tariff on both books and music?

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I would remind the Hon. Member of the reasons we regretfully took that action. It was not an action taken against the book industry but it was an action taken to exercise our rights and demonstrate our concerns over the direction U.S. government policy was taking. I have met, as has had the Minister of Communications, with representatives of the book publishing industry. We have asked the industry for information. Once we receive that information, we will be able to chart our course from there.

MINISTER'S POSITION

Ms. Lynn McDonald (Broadview—Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, will the Minister respond to legal opinions put forward indicating that the tariff on English-language books is discriminatory, that it violates provisions in the Charter designed to provide equal protection for both official languages, that it discriminates against English readers, and that it violates the provisions for freedom of expression, thought and exchange, by impeding the free flow of ideas? Will the Minister not agree that the Charter should be respected and that that tariff which is in violation of it should be withdrawn?

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I am sure the Hon. Member would know that one can get an opinion from a lawyer on both sides of that particular issue.

Mr. Broadbent: Of any issue.

Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre): The Leader of the New Democratic Party, a noted legal scholar, is probably right. One can get an opinion from a lawyer on both sides of any issue. Given the circumstances, that is particularly so with this issue. We are reviewing the matter but, as I indicated, we have asked the industry for information and until that information is available it is difficult for us to proceed.

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POINT OF ORDER**MINISTER'S REPLY DURING QUESTION PERIOD**

Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt—Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. During Question Period I noted that the Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board (Mr. Mayer) may have inadvertently misled the House when he told us that the Government had removed the fuel tax on farm fuel. I think it would have been more correct to use the word "reduced" rather than the word "removed". Accordingly, I ask that the record be corrected.

● (1500)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair must rule that that is not a point of order.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS*[English]***PAROLE ACT AND PENITENTIARY ACT****MEASURE TO AMEND—SENATE AMENDMENT**

The House resumed consideration of an amendment made by the Senate to Bill C-67, an Act to amend the Parole Act and the Penitentiary Act; and the motion (Mr. Kelleher) (p. 15013).

Mr. Deputy Speaker: When the House rose at one o'clock, five minutes were remaining in the question and comment period following the speech of the Hon. Member for York South—Weston (Mr. Nunziata). Therefore, I recognize the Hon. Member for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell (Mr. Boudria) on a question or comment.

Mr. Boudria: Mr. Speaker, I should like to preface my question to the Hon. Member for York South—Weston (Mr. Nunziata) by congratulating him on his fine remarks on the Bill earlier today. I am sure all Hon. Members of the House would agree that as usual they were very thoughtful and thought provoking remarks.

Is the Hon. Member of the opinion that the Government is misguided in its approach? Does he think, as I do, that it is actually using this issue as a ploy to divert attention from the