

Point of Order—Mr. Riis

EFFECT OF PRIVATIZATION ON JOB SECURITY

Mr. George Proud (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is to the same Minister. Privatization of the workplace is driving Canadians toward the poverty line. When an industry goes from the unionized public sector to the non-unionized private sector, workers see their incomes decrease by some 35 per cent to 75 per cent.

The question is, is the Government funding this Council and, if so, what is the financial commitment? Are Canadian tax dollars being spent on ads that may ultimately cost workers their jobs and their security?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Corbeil (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure that I correctly understood the question I was asked. But if the question was whether the Government in the past financed this centre, and we were talking about the same centre, I would recall an answer that I already gave previously. In the first six years since it was created in 1969, under a Liberal Government, it was granted \$3.3 million a year. Since it has come under a Conservative Government, it has received a subsidy averaging \$8 million a year.

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[*English*]

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EXEMPTION FROM LEGISLATION FOR EDUCATIONAL USES

Ms. Barbara Greene (Don Valley North): Mr. Speaker, educators across Canada are deeply concerned about the impact of Bill C-60, the copyright legislation, on their ability to teach mandatory courses and provide students with examples and experiences which are current and relevant.

Will the Minister of Communications be introducing exemptions to the Act which will guarantee educators access to Canadian materials comparable to that which they have to American materials?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marcel Masse (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, the Copyright Act is intended to compensate creators while giving users of protected works easy access at reasonable cost.

We have already passed the first stage of legislation and Parliament will soon be presented with a second stage dealing with various types of limited exemption, including those for educational institutions.

In this second stage, we will try in particular to update existing exemptions by taking account of the recommendations of an advisory board set up for that purpose. This board is made up of representatives of the creators and the teaching community.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS

TABLING OF UPDATED STANDING ORDERS

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to table the Standing Orders of the House of Commons dated April 1989, reflecting the changes adopted by the House on Wednesday, April 5, 1989.

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[*English*]

POINT OF ORDER

CLOSURE PROCEEDINGS

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Yesterday was the first occurrence in the history of the House that a debate under closure collapsed before the allotted voting hour.

Closure, as the House knows, has been moved fewer than 30 times in the past 75 years. It is designed to shorten debates which would otherwise continue at such lengths as to impede the reasonable progress of the Government's legislative program. It was not designed as a way of extending hours. In fact, it originally cut an hour off the sitting day. The collapse of the debate on Bill C-20 yesterday is clear evidence of the misapplication of the heavy hand of the Government on this House. Before the Government moved closure—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Taking into account all of the circumstances, I think perhaps it is appropriate that Hon. Members listen to the House Leader of the New Democratic Party on this important point of order. The Hon. Member for Kamloops.

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, I will be very, very quick. The collapse of the debate on Bill C-20 yesterday is obviously clear evidence of the misapplication of the heavy hand of the Government on this House. Before the Government