SUGGESTED AUTOMATIC GRANTING TO FORMER MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, if the minister will not give consideration to the second question regarding the waiving of the citizenship fee for old age pensioners, would he give special consideration to the automatic granting of citizenship to members of the Armed Forces, particularly those who served in two world wars and in Korea?

Hon. Hugh James Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I have discussed this matter with the hon. member previously, and with members on this side of the House. Both options, the question of the senior citizens and the members of the Armed Forces, are very attractive propositions. I am just not yet in a position to consider them.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

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ABORIGINAL RIGHTS—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. A couple of weeks ago I asked him when he would be in a position to make a statement to the House regarding the position of the government with respect to aboriginal rights and the recognition thereof. The minister at that time, usually loquacious, was reticent and said "soon". Is he in a position now to amplify on "soon" and tell us when we might expect a statement to be made?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Sooner, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, that was a favourite expression of my foster mother, the implications of which I won't relate at the moment. However, may I ask when the document with respect to aboriginal rights currently before cabinet might be approved?

[Translation]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, we are still considering this matter and as soon as we make a decision, I shall be pleased to inform the House.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Trinity.

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Speaker, my question was for the Minister of Transport who has left the chamber for a moment. I understand he will be back, so perhaps I could reserve my position in the queue if the question period has not expired by that time.

Mr. Speaker: There is a presumption it will have expired, because I will now call orders of the day. [Mr. Faulkner.]

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

OLYMPIC (1976) BILL

PROVISION FOR ISSUING OF COMMEMORATIVE COINS AND STAMPS AND HOLDING OF LOTTERY

The House resumed, from Friday, June 29, consideration of the motion of Mr. Drury that Bill C-196, respecting the 1976 summer Olympic games, be read the second time and be referred to the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

Mr. Speaker: The President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury).

Mr. Drury: Question.

Mr. Speaker: Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): On division.

Mr. Speaker: Carried on division.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

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INCOME TAX ACT (No. 2)

The House resumed, from Wednesday, June 27, consideration in committee of Bill C-192, to amend the Income Tax Act (No. 2)—Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton)—Mr. McCleave in the chair.

The Chairman: Order. When the committee rose on Wednesday, June 27, that part of clause 1 of the bill found on page 1 and page 2, down to the end of subparagraph (b), was under consideration.

On clause 1—Deduction from corporate tax: manufacturing and processing profits.

Mr. Gleave: Mr. Chairman, I cannot see why we should make these reductions in corporate tax, and I cannot see how we can expect them to reflect increased activities in the community. The only way we could justify supporting these tax concessions and accelerated depreciation writeoffs would be if the move benefited the people of Canada as a whole and, speaking personally, benefited the community in which I live.

Recently there was a prolonged strike, or work disruption in the city of Saskatoon. It was a dispute between Dominion Tar and Chemicals—Domtar as we call it and the people who work in its Saskatoon plant. It lasted all winter. Two or three weeks ago Domtar said, "Boys, this is the end of the road. We are going to close down the plant." So far as I know to this point in time, Domtar has closed down the plant.