

S. O. 21

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well, your vote will be recorded.
[English]

It being 1.05 p.m., I do now leave the Chair until 2 p.m.
At 1.05 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p. m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 21

[English]

ABORIGINAL RIGHTS

ANNOUNCED TERMINATION OF RESEARCH FUNDING

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane—Superior): Mr. Speaker, following the failure of the most recent First Ministers' Conference on aboriginal rights, the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) said: "That was not the end of it . . . I deeply regret we did not succeed but—we shall try again to make sure that justice comes about for the native peoples of Canada".

All Hon. Members can applaud, approve and wholeheartedly support that affirmation of the Prime Minister of Canada. That being so, I ask this House if it is not curious, therefore, that the Government is terminating its constitutional funding to the national native organizations for aboriginal rights research and negotiation, with special reference to the right of self-government?

The Minister of Justice (Mr. Hnatyshyn) has no reply except to say that funding will end as of June 30. I ask him and I ask the Prime Minister is it not really the case that aboriginal issues have been pushed off the agenda of the Government and the hope is that a few good words and nice sentiments from time to time will suffice as those unresolved rights are permitted to disappear from our sight?

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CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

SUPPORT FOR REINSTATEMENT

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, I believe the death penalty for people who deliberately plan and then murder a human being is a deterrent. However, whether it is or not, I support the execution of such murderers. Why? Primarily because Biblical evidence in both the Old and New Testaments supports capital punishment.

"Whoso sheddith man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed . . ." (Genesis 9:5,6). No later statements in the Holy Book cancel this principle of civil government.

Again, Paul the Apostle endorsed capital punishment when he said: "If I be an offender or have committed anything worthy of death, I refuse not to die: (Acts 25:11). And when

God gave us the Ten Commandments to guide our behaviour in life, the verse says: "Thou shalt not kill" (Exodus 20:13). But if we disobey this commandment then we are punished, and for premeditated murder under the Mosaic Law the punishment was death.

When Christ was on the cross he forgave the sins of the thief, but He did not stop the execution and He could have, had He chosen to do so.

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STATUS OF WOMEN

FEDERAL FUNDING OF WOMEN'S GROUPS

Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan): Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee on Secretary of State has recommended that the budget of the Women's Program be at least maintained at current levels, indexed to the cost of living and, if possible, be increased to meet the needs of new groups and address emerging priorities. The Women's Program gives the Government excellent value for its money in terms of volunteer hours and staff dedication.

Additional funds are required for projects aimed specifically at improving the status of women who are doubly disadvantaged, such as women who live in remote regions, those who are disabled or are members of a visible minority. Government must not pit established groups against new groups in a futile battle to divide up a pie which isn't large enough to go around. Instead, we must recognize that until economic, social and political barriers to equality have been removed, the Women's Program will require government support.

I would ask that the budget for the Secretary of State's Women's Program be increased so that women's advancement toward equality may continue.

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[Translation]

DRUMMONDVILLE SIXTH WORLD FOLKLORE FESTIVAL

INVITATION TO ATTEND

Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, I want to draw attention to a special event which will take place in my riding, the sixth edition of the World Folklore Festival. I extend an invitation to all my colleagues and to all Canadians to attend the festivities. During the July 3-13 period we will be welcoming groups from every corner of the world: Africa, Asia, Europe and North America. Spend 10 days with us and discover the popular traditions and culture of various nations through songs, music, dances, and a wide variety of most enlightening activities.