

*Routine Proceedings***POINT OF ORDER**

Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, in terms of the question raised by the member for Mission—Coquitlam on Dr. Chan's funding, I just got the information that the department actually turned down the request by Dr. Chan. The reason was that study he would make would take about a year and a half to two years before having some conclusive answers. Already the American United States FDA has asked the company that makes the Meme implant to undertake immediately a very comprehensive and extensive study similar to that proposed by Dr. Chan and conclusions will be available long before the proposed one.

In light of what she asked me concerning women and their health, I think it will be better to wait for the answer from the Americans instead of having something which will come later in Canada. That is the reason why the proposal has been turned down by the department.

Ms. Joy Langan (Mission—Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, perhaps I might respond to the minister's comments. I thank him for seeking the information and coming back to me on it.

While I appreciate that we are very reliant on the American Food and Drug Administration, it would seem to me that for a long time we have known that the Meme was a problem and we did not act until we waited for the FDA. I would ask that the minister reconsider and do something now for Canadian women.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

BILL C-35

REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions and I am sure you will find the necessary consent for the following motion:

That the Order to refer Bill C-35 to legislative committee G be rescinded and that the same bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and the Solicitor General.

[Translation]

Mr. Gagliano: Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, I did not consult with my colleague, the House Leader of the Official Opposition. We would therefore like to wait a little, until we have consulted, to give our agreement.

[English]

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, I would not expect the Whip of the Official Opposition to take my word on it, but may I ask that we could agree conditionally to him just advising the Table or the Chair that those consultations have taken place, because they have.

[Translation]

Mr. Gagliano: Mr. Speaker, the debate can continue and I will be back later after consulting my colleague.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): So I see that there is no unanimous consent for now. I therefore ask hon. members on both sides of the House to get together to move the situation forward.

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[English]

PETITIONS

AGRICULTURE

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by a large number of Canadians who are dissatisfied with this government's policies toward assisting farmers. My colleague, the very distinguished member for Algoma, brought to our attention today the fact that the government has only provided a little bit more than half of the assistance that was required for Canadian agriculture. My colleague is quite correct in what he is saying as he always is.

These Canadians agree with my colleague, the member for Algoma, that the revenue provided to farmers is most inadequate and they call upon this House to convince the government to provide more funding for agriculture.

JASPER PARK AIRSTRIP

Mr. Albert Cooper (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to table on behalf of the right hon. member for Yellowhead a petition concerning the Jasper airstrip. It has hundreds of signatures of people who are very concerned with the possible closing of the Jasper Park airstrip.