

month delay continue before the third Canadian position on the IJC is filled? How much longer must we wait?

Hon. John Roberts (Minister of the Environment and Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, I agree that this is an important appointment that has to be made. I regret the delay that has taken place, and I hope the appointment will be made soon.

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EMPLOYMENT

DIRECT JOB-CREATION PROGRAM—SELECTION OF RIDINGS ELIGIBLE FOR DEVELOPMENT COMPONENT

Mr. John Bosley (Don Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Employment and Immigration regarding the development component of his recently announced program which is, as I understand it, the component intended to deal with long-term solutions to chronic unemployment.

Is it just a coincidence that of the 33 ridings that qualify for that component, 32 are represented by Liberals? Is it just a coincidence that of the ridings that qualify, more than half are represented by parliamentary secretaries and ministers, or is the minister finally coming clean with Canadians about the cause and effect relationship between how you vote and what you get, to the effect that the longer you vote Liberal, the poorer you become?

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, if there is any correlation at all between those figures, it simply shows that the people in Canada who are most in need know which party to vote for because it will best respond to their needs.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LEBANON—SUGGESTION PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION INVESTIGATE SITUATION

Miss Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I wonder if the minister would consider establishing a three-member all-party group to travel to Beirut in the very near future to discuss with our ambassador, and all the involved parties in the very serious situation in Lebanon, the nature of the kind of responses that the Canadian government and the Canadian Parliament could make in this situation, and report back to the minister and the House.

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I think I could not take such a proposal as a serious way of responding to the problems of the Middle East at the present time. There is no lack of knowledge of the facts. We are well acquainted with the facts. The problems are amongst the parties in the Middle East. The United States is

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conducting mediation efforts with respect to the problem in Beirut itself. Most countries of the world feel that we are better advised to await the resolution of that problem before proceeding with initiatives with respect to the longer-term problems of the Middle East.

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PETITIONS

TABLING OF REPORTS OF CLERK OF PETITIONS

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the Clerk of the House has laid upon the Table the reports of the Clerk of Petitions stating that he has examined the petitions presented by hon. members on Wednesday, July 28, 1982, and that he finds that they meet the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, this being a Thursday I wonder if I might ask the government House leader as to the disposition of business for the balance of this week, next week and as far as he wishes to prophesy.

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, Bill C-85 today, and Bill C-124 starting tomorrow and for next week.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL DEFENCE

PRESENTATION OF ELEVENTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Saint-Denis): Mr. Speaker, further to its Order of Reference of Wednesday, March 18, 1981, the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence formed the subcommittee on Canada's Relations with Latin America and the Caribbean. Pursuant to the same Order of Reference, your committee previously tabled an interim report on December 8 of last year. Your committee has continued its consideration of this subject, and, Mr. Speaker, I have the honour, as Chairman of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence, of tabling, in both official languages, the committee's eleventh report which deals specifically with the Caribbean and Central America.

[Editor's Note: For above report, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]