

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, January 20, 1994

The House met at 10 a.m.

Prayers

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

INTERPARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

Hon. Sheila Finestone (Secretary of State (Multiculturalism)(Status of Women)): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 34(1), I have the honour to present to the House, in both official languages, the report of the Canadian group of the Interparliamentary Union.

This is the report of the official delegation representing Canada at the 90th Interparliamentary Conference held in Canberra, Australia, from September 13 to September 18, 1993.

* * *

[English]

PETITIONS

TAXATION

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition from my electors that asks the government to undertake a comprehensive review of taxation at its earliest convenience to remove the current injustices.

These petitioners indicate a particular injustice in the current legislation; single income families with special needs children are discriminated against for their decision to remain at home with their children.

They point out that there is a significant cost that is incurred by families advised by physicians to place their children in day care catering to special needs children. I may add as well that these costs remain the same whether the family has a single or double income. This is, in the opinion of these petitioners, unfair and discriminatory.

• (1005)

[Translation]

These constituents are asking for a report on what is being done about taxes. They want the injustices to be removed.

[English]

THE CONSTITUTION

Mr. Myron Thompson (Wild Rose): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I am pleased to table a petition on behalf of the constituents of Wild Rose, in and around the town of Sundre, which states: "The undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to enact legislation providing for a referendum of the people binding upon Parliament to accept or reject two official languages, English and French, for the government and the people of Canada; the acceptance or rejection of the proposed amendments to be determined by a majority vote of the total votes cast in the whole of Canada, together with a majority vote in a majority of provinces with the territories being given the status of one province. And as, in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray".

On behalf of these petitioners, I submit this today.

VIOLENCE

Mr. Dennis J. Mills (Broadview—Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I have the privilege to present before this House petitions that have been signed by constituents from not only my riding but from around the greater Toronto area. They call on Parliament to recognize that the incidence of violence against women and children is unacceptable.

The petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to accept legislation designed to eliminate violence against women and children, encourage and support women to report incidents of assault or abuse, provide assistance and support for women reporting assault or abuse and the need for abuser rehabilitation.

They want to concentrate special effort on the training of police, lawyers, court workers and judges to become knowledgeable about women and child abuse and also to focus public attention on this very important and long ignored problem.

CANADIAN FORCES BASE MONCTON

Mr. George S. Rideout (Moncton): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, it is a pleasure to introduce a petition from