

S.O. 21

five consecutive years, an unprecedented record, and a number of players were from Edmonton. On Thursday, May 30, the Edmonton Oilers won the Stanley Cup for the second year in a row. Last fall eight Oilers played on Canada's victorious team for the 1984 Canada Cup, considered to be the world championship.

For championship teams, Edmonton has an unequalled record. The Edmonton Oilers have Wayne Gretzky, the acknowledged "world's" best hockey player. A number of other players are considered to be in the superb class. Naturally, we have a few players native to Edmonton.

The Oilers' excellence is due to a combination of good business and team work. The general manager and coach, Glen Sather, must be given credit for assembling and fusing these excellent hockey players into a team of such excellence that they are forging a completely new dimension of hockey in North America, and, indeed, the world.

● (1410)

Peter Pocklington, owner and entrepreneur, is responsible for the Edmonton Oilers, and made it all happen. The City of Edmonton continues to represent the very best in Canadian sports, and that has been recognized around the world.

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[Translation]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF DEATH PENALTY

Mr. Fernand Jourdenais (La Prairie): Mr. Speaker, last weekend once again, in the Montreal Region, two heinous crimes were perpetrated on young people, including one girl from Longueuil who was raped and murdered and a five-year old child from Ville Emard who was sexually assaulted and fatally beaten, and whose body was found in my riding. A few weeks ago, an elderly couple was murdered for the sake of \$70, and in the last few months, many more such murders have been committed.

Mr. Speaker, it has become very urgent to re-open the debate on capital punishment in Canada, and I am addressing these words especially to my colleagues, the Solicitor General (Mr. MacKay) and the Minister of Justice (Mr. Crosbie), in the hope that the Government will table, as soon as possible, a bill to restore capital punishment in Canada.

Although some people tend to say that bringing back capital punishment would be a return to barbarism, I wonder whether they feel the same way about the perpetrators of these foul murders. Imagine, sexually assaulting a defenceless five-year old child and beating it to death. It is too horrible for words. If that is not barbaric, I wonder what is.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I hope that the police will manage to arrest the murderers so they can be brought to trial and

sentenced. As for the victims' families, I offer them my sincere sympathy.

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[English]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

ACID RAIN—STATEMENTS MADE BY UNITED STATES SENATOR KENNEDY

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, last Friday in Toronto, Senator Kennedy acknowledged a long-standing problem in his address to the Canadian Acid Rain Coalition. The problem he recognized is that the utilities and other powerful interests in the United States are determined to block congressional action on the problem of acid rain. Senator Kennedy also recognized the appointment of two special envoys on acid rain for what it really is, a delaying tactic. Kennedy sees little purpose in having two individuals conduct yet another study to determine if there is an acid rain problem.

While waiting for envoys to deliver the impossible, because they have no political clout, our forests, fisheries, lakes, buildings, and structures continue to suffer from the damaging effects of acid rain. Instead of waiting, the Government should take an active role in urging Canada's friends and allies to exert pressure on the United States between now and July 30 when, in Helsinki, 20 countries will sign an agreement to reduce acid rain emissions by a minimum of 30 per cent by 1993. It should be the highest priority of the Canadian Government to do everything in its power to ensure that the United States joins us and the other 20 nations in signing that agreement in Helsinki next month.

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FINANCE

REGULATIONS GOVERNING REGISTERED RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLANS

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Mississauga South): Mr. Speaker, a person who owns a Registered Retirement Savings Plan is entitled at any time until the age of 71 to cash in that plan, pay the tax on it, and use the money in any way he wants. Indeed, people have used Registered Retirement Savings to enjoy a sabbatical, to put together money to purchase a business, or for any other purpose they had in mind. However, when a person attains the age of 71, Big Brother steps in. For some reason the Government has treated those with Retirement Savings Plans who reach the age of 71 as nincompoops, as incompetents, and as having the management ability of an infant child.

By edict, the Government demands that anyone who has a Registered Retirement Savings Plan must either convert the plan and purchase an annuity from a life insurance company or, in the alternative, enter into a Registered Investment Fund arrangement with a trust company, when he reaches 71. We trust people to save their own money until they reach the age