

*Oral Questions***YOUTH**

## WORDING OF MINISTER'S LETTER

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of State for Youth. I want to give her the opportunity to correct a very serious misleading of the House in which she indulged—and I say that quite seriously—earlier in the Question Period.

The Minister has acknowledged that she wrote a letter to her cabinet colleagues. She said there was only one word in it that was a mistake.

Considering the whole letter is about partisan politics, and begins with references to a political agenda and includes these sentences, Mr. Speaker—

**Mrs. Mailly:** She has already dealt with that.

**Mr. Broadbent:** I am in your hands, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Member knows that this is becoming a long preamble. Could we have a question?

**Mr. Broadbent:** Considering the Minister says in the letter:

Caucus requires tools to maintain its political linkages with youth—  
Support to the recruitment efforts of the PC Youth Federations—

—are important: Which one word among these many was the error the Minister made?

**Mr. Rodriguez:** The whole letter.

**Hon. Andrée Champagne (Minister of State (Youth)):** Mr. Speaker, I have apologized for anything in the letter which could—

**Mr. Rodriguez:** The whole letter.

**Miss Champagne:** —be construed as a partisan word.

I think that linkages with youth by members of any caucus are very important. I would imagine the Leader of the New Democratic Party would certainly want his people to have linkages.

We are working with the young people of Canada. Now that they know what we have done, what we are doing, and what we will be doing for them, I can understand why the Leader of the New Democratic Party would be worried.

## REQUEST FOR MINISTER'S RESIGNATION

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Deputy Prime Minister.

Considering that letter is a blatant attempt to use public funds for the recruitment of young people to the Conservative Party of Canada, would the Deputy Prime Minister not acknowledge that this is an abuse of the powers and responsibilities of a Minister, and request the Prime Minister of Canada to ask for this Minister's resignation?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I do not know how much further the hon. gentleman, or Members applauding opposite, would want any Minister to go. She has been honest and forthright—

**Mr. Broadbent:** She got caught.

**Mr. Nielsen:** —in admitting the authorship of the letter, in admitting a mistake of the letter and in apologizing for it.

Surely even the Hon. Leader of the New Democratic Party is sufficiently human to admit mistakes from time to time and to apologize for them.

**Mr. Broadbent:** If you are in the Cabinet you resign, Mister.

\* \* \*

**STATUS OF WOMEN**

## ABSENCE OF FEMALE GUARANTORS FOR PASSPORT APPLICANTS

**Mr. David Daubney (Ottawa West):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for the Status of Women.

Is the Minister aware that groups or professions eligible to act as guarantors of passport applications are almost without exception male-dominated ones, and, for example, the profession of nursing is not included on that list? What is the Minister prepared to do about this apparent, if unintended, discrimination against 50 per cent of the population?

**Hon. Walter McLean (Minister of State (Immigration)):** Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Hon. Member for raising this matter. It is a matter which, on reflection, has a good deal of validity.

I will undertake to talk with my colleague, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, who has responsibility for passports, and review that list in this light.

\* \* \*

**NATIONAL DEFENCE**

## CANADIAN FORCES BASE SUMMERSIDE—CONSTRUCTION OF COMBINED MESS

**Mr. George Henderson (Egmont):** Mr. Speaker, I had a question on potatoes for the Minister of Agriculture. However, as he is absent, I will address a question to the Minister of National Defence.

On January 24, 1985, the Government announced a new Combined Mess for CFB, Summerside. Construction was to begin in October, 1986. Is that project on schedule?

**Hon. Harvie Andre (Associate Minister of National Defence):** Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, I do not have that information at my disposal. I will take the Hon. Member's