

Oral Questions[*English*]

UNITED STATES ANTI-TRUST LEGISLATION

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon West): Madam Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister if he will not also consider contacting the officials of the United States Government to determine whether or not this action on the part of the Board of Governors of the National Hockey League is a breach of the U.S. anti-trust legislation.

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Madam Speaker, I can assure the Hon. Member that the Director of Combines Investigations will do everything in his power and will pursue the matter to the limits of the law.

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[*Translation*]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

AGREEMENT TO RENDER MANITOBA OFFICIALLY BILINGUAL—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa-Vanier): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice and concerns the agreement in principle between the Federal Government and the Government of Manitoba regarding a constitutional amendment that would modify the Manitoba Act (1870) with respect to the use of French or English in the proceedings and documents of the legislature and before the courts. Could the Minister confirm, and give further details about, the agreement concluded by the Franco-Manitoban community, the Government of Manitoba and the Federal Government, for the purpose of finding an arrangement that would be agreeable to both official language communities living in Manitoba? Could the Minister also inform the House whether the Province of Ontario, which has one half million Franco-Ontarians, has indicated that after Quebec, New Brunswick and Manitoba, it too would be prepared to extend generously the same constitutional guarantees to its official language minority?

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Minister of Justice): Madam Speaker, I am both pleased and proud to confirm that an agreement has been reached between the Government of Canada and the Government of Manitoba, with the collaboration of the Société franco-manitobaine. The two Governments have already ratified the agreement, and we are now waiting for the approval of the Société franco-manitobaine.

Madam Speaker, I am sorry I cannot reveal all the details of the agreement today, but I can assure the House that the agreement will clarify the full equality of both official languages in Manitoba. As for the position of the Government of Ontario, I certainly do hope, with my hon. friend, that Ontario will now be willing to follow Manitoba's example.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ORGANIZATION—REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

Mr. Scott Fennell (Ontario): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. In view of the additional numbers of dangerous people on the street, I requested the Minister earlier to give some consideration to the organization called "Victims of Violence". Would he reconsider that request to provide some assistance to that organization which is helping families who have been hurt by criminals?

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Minister of Justice): Madam Speaker, there are few subjects which preoccupy me more than the question of victims of violence, as my recent statements have indicated. In fact the second National Conference on the Law to be held here next week will concentrate in part on that very subject. My hon. friend, however, is asking me about a grant for a particular organization. It is certainly one of the organizations whose work is welcomed in this field. However, with respect to some form of endorsement of the work of that organization in particular, we obviously must be dependent on the total resources which are available. This is a subject which is taking a large part of the attention of the federal Government and, indeed, of some of the provincial Governments, in this field. I can assure my hon. friend that it is not being neglected.

DESIGNATION AS CHARITABLE INSTITUTION

Mr. Scott Fennell (Ontario): Madam Speaker, I have a supplementary question directed to the Minister of National Revenue. This organization, "Victims of Violence", has been trying for a year and a half to get a charitable donation number. Would the Minister follow this up and do something about it so that these people could raise funds in order to send out newsletters and provide an important service?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue): Madam Speaker, we have already had several opportunities in this House to discuss the matter of charitable contribution numbers. First of all, this is a very complex matter since it concerns the indirect use of public funds. Moreover, a large number of requests have been made for such numbers. However, I can assure the Hon. Member that we shall make every effort to pay particular attention to this request.

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[*English*]

INCOME TAX

CERTIFICATION OF SUPPORT PAYMENTS SENT TO PARENTS IN CHINA

Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina): Madam Speaker, as the Minister knows, many Canadians from Third World countries such as