

S.O. 21 MEDICAL CARE

SHORTAGE OF PHYSIOTHERAPISTS

Mr. Stanley Hudecki (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, at a time when there is a surplus of university and community college graduates in various professions seeking employment, there is an acute and alarming shortage in one essential profession in the paramedical field, that is physiotherapy. The physiotherapist is one of the well-trained professionals who play a key role in rehabilitation. With good background training in understanding medicine, surgery and obstetrics, and working with the appropriate doctor, physiotherapists apply physical exercises and various physical aids particularly tailored for the individual in facilitating rapid recovery in the rehabilitation of the injured, sick, and diseased. Unfortunately a number of them have elected to work in physical fitness institutions, where I believe their skill is underutilized.

I am concerned that those in post-secondary education are slow in assessing the genuine need for the services of graduates in the field of medical rehabilitation and that they are making little effort to meet this need, especially when there is such a large group, numbering in the thousands, of well motivated, qualified students ready and waiting for appropriate training.

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HUMAN RIGHTS

PLIGHT OF SOVIET DISSIDENT ANDREI SAKHAROV

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, on numerous occasions in the past Hon. Members of the House of Commons have voiced our concern about the plight of Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov. We have urged the Government of the Soviet Union to relent in its continuing persecution of Mr. Sakharov and his wife, Yelena Bonner. Their situation is now critical.

Andrei Sakharov, who has been banished to internal exile, is on a prolonged hunger strike in a desperate attempt to force Soviet officials to issue an exit visa for his wife so that she may travel abroad to obtain medical treatment unavailable to her in the Soviet Union.

As seldom before, the international community has rallied to condemn the harsh treatment being accorded these two human rights activists whose lives are now in danger. Members of Congress, Parliaments, Foreign Ministers and Heads of Governments are joining in the plea to free the Sakharovs. It is critical that the Government of Canada protest officially this ongoing violation of the Helsinki Final Act and of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the Soviet Union, and that we further call upon the Government of that country to release the Sakharovs and allow them to emigrate to the country of their choice.

PORNOGRAPHY

CALL FOR STIFFER PENALTIES

Ms. Lynn McDonald (Broadview-Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, recent initiatives in the United States to fight pornography are welcome here, first because any crackdown on pornography in the United States will be a crackdown here since the United States is the chief source of our pornography. Second, the initiatives are laudable because they go to the heart of the matter. Increasing fines to \$100,000 possible maximum for a first offence and \$200,000 for a subsequent offence will really help to take the profits out of this industry, and industry is what pornography is all about.

In Canada, by comparison, the fines are at a level of paltry hundreds of dollars in recent cases. We will never deal with pornography seriously until we have substantial fines and other monetary penalties such as loss of licence. Further, the American initiative is laudable for dealing with enforcement. Federal and state authorities are getting together to seek faster methods of getting offenders into court. That is not happening in Canada. We have two committees and one subcommittee dealing with the matter.

There are matters with which Parliament could deal, such as passing amendments to the Broadcasting Act and swift passage of amendments to the obscenity provisions of the Criminal Code. We should prepare for action when the Badgley Committee and the Fraser Committee report so that the provinces can swing into action as soon as we have those recommendations so that we will have serious enforcement against pornography.

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POLITICAL PARTIES

LIBERAL PARTY LEADERSHIP CAMPAIGN—ESSAY CONTEST

Mr. Doug Lewis (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, one of the winning essays used to choose Ontario youth delegates to the Liberal convention has come to our attention, and I want to share it with the House. It reads:

My parents, staunch Liberals, want me to be a delegate.

They say there will be many Liberal leadership conventions over the next few years but this will be the last opportunity, in my lifetime, to see a Liberal Prime Minister in person.

I support all of John Turner's positions on bilingualism.

His clarifications have been helpful, especially if I don't like his first position on an issue. His support for Bill 101 was courageous, while he was in Quebec.

• (1410)

I saw one of his investment films, once. I was lucky; I saw it on opening night. My friends went the next day and "Gone with the Wind" was playing instead.

My father works for Canadian Pacific, just like Mr. Turner and Senator "6 & 5".

Please thank Mr. Turner for setting up this independent essay contest to select youth delegates. This is democracy.

I was concerned when Mr. Apps and Mrs. Campagnolo threatened to clean up the Liberal Party. Now that you have fixed my delegate position, I know things haven't changed.