

Point of Order—Mr. Whelan

proper penitentiary will be built, with the necessary luxurious comforts, for these 200 Newfoundlanders he says have violated federal law? Will he assure the House a proper penitentiary will be built in Newfoundland in the near future?

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, one assurance I can give the Hon. Member is that this institution will be up to the same good standards of all federal penitentiaries in Canada. As a minimum security institution this will be at exactly the same level as those that are located in Toronto or anywhere else in our country.

* * *

PETITIONS

TABLING OF REPORTS OF CLERK OF PETITIONS

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the petition presented by the Hon. Member for Comox-Powell River (Mr. Skelly) on Thursday, December 15, 1983, meets the requirement of the Standing Order as to form.

[Translation]

The petition presented by the Hon. Member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Tousignant) on Thursday, December 15, 1983, does not meet the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

* * *

[English]

PRIVILEGE

MR. NIELSEN—NOTICE OF POSSIBLE QUESTION TO BE RAISED

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, a question of privilege must be raised as soon as possible after the event. I believe I have a question of privilege arising out of today's Question Period and the exchange between the Chair and the Right Hon. Member for Yellowhead (Mr. Clark). I want, however, to examine the record very carefully before raising the matter, if I do. I am simply informing the Chair now so that I will not be shot down for not having raised it at the earliest possible opportunity. I will do so Monday, if I think it necessary.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

AGRICULTURE

EXCHANGE OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. When I was trying to answer a question, I may not have informed the House properly. I want

to say to the Hon. Member who asked the question that we do not intend to sign this agreement because some of the main players who have the genetic resources are on the sidelines now. They are not going to be participating in this program. That is why we are not going to sign it.

* * *

[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. John Evans (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

[English]

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, this is the last day upon which we will probably be reasonable on this matter. We will consent for today, but I suggest that the Parliamentary Secretary think very seriously over the weekend about starting to answer these questions on Monday next.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Shall all the questions stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

INCOME TAX ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed from Thursday, December 15, consideration of the motion of Mr. Lalonde that Bill C-2, an Act to amend the statute law relating to income tax and to make related amendments to the Canada Pension Plan and the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971, be read the second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Charles Mayer (Portage-Marquette): Mr. Speaker, in the time available to me, I want to make a couple of points. I am glad to see the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) is still here.

Mr. Whelan: You talked last night.

Mr. Mayer: The Minister says I was talking last night. I hope he listened to what I was saying. I was referring to what I thought would benefit the farming community. I am also happy that the Parliamentary Secretary is here because I made some comments with regard to the problem that I have with the tax Bill, and that seems to be the mindset of the Government.