

intended to cast aspersions upon the character of the right hon. member for Prince Albert. In view of the admission or expression contained therein, that whatever action was taken at that time was taken with the support of the whole House of Commons without a contrary voice—and if there was any doubt about that, the Prime Minister added that in retrospect, in his personal opinion, that action was proper and appropriate at the time—I cannot reconcile those public expressions of approval of the action that was taken with a finding that there is an allegation of some impropriety or misconduct on the part of the right hon. gentleman.

I therefore find, in examining them—and I have to come to a decision one way or another—that there is a serious dispute and disagreement as to what the facts were, and there is a further dispute and disagreement as to what implications or significance should be taken from those facts. Those are ingredients for debate and not ingredients for a question of privilege. Therefore, that is my view and it is my hope that the matter will end there.

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CRIMINAL CODE

AMENDMENT TO EXTEND LICENSING REQUIREMENT TO RIFLES

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-392, to amend the Criminal Code (control of weapons and firearms).

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Leggatt: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to place firearms which are not now prohibited or restricted, in the restricted category and require a licensing system for the ownership of all firearms. The purpose, in short, is with some exceptions to apply to rifles the law presently in place with respect to handguns.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

* * *

[Translation]

PRIVATE BILLS

REFERENCE TO STANDING COMMITTEE OF PETITION CONCERNING NATIONAL COMMERCIAL BANK OF CANADA

Mr. Bernard Loiselle (Chambly): Mr. Speaker, for the chairman of the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Private Bills and Standing Orders, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Sainte-Marie (Mr. Dupont):

That, pursuant to the terms of Standing Order 99, the petition requesting the incorporation of the National Commercial Bank of Canada—La Banque nationale de Commerce du Canada, tabled after the time limit stipulated by Standing Order 90, be referred to the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Private Bills and Standing Orders, with the 8th report of the Clerk of Petitions tabled in the House on Thursday, May 29, 1975, that the committee might be in a position to make the recommendations it deems pertinent.

Mr. Speaker: Does it please the House to pass the motion?

Order Paper Questions

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 224, 1,979, 2,093, 2,103, 2,156, 2,188, 2,237, 2,239, 2,252, and 2,350.

Mr. Speaker, would you be so kind as to call starred question No. 2,470?

I ask, Mr. Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

[Text]

TENDERS FOR POST OFFICE—OROMOCTO, N.B.

Question No. 224—**Mr. Howie:**

On what date will tenders be called for the government building to house a post office in Oromocto, New Brunswick?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Public Works): Tenders for the proposed new Government of Canada Building in Oromocto were called by public advertisement in the last week of May, 1975.

CONTRACT TO CARLETON UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Question No. 1,979—**Mr. Reynolds:**

1. Was a contract awarded February 20, 1974 to the Carleton University Faculty of Engineering, Ottawa, Ontario for a study testing the capability of interactive video communications systems?

2. What is the necessity of the study?

3. Could the information have been available elsewhere as assessed by other governments or with the Department of Communications?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications):
1. Yes, the contract was issued on January 30, 1974.

2. The study was initiated by the Educational Technology Program Branch of the Department of Communications to assist the Provinces in the field of educational technology. The overall objective of the Wired City Simulation Project is to evaluate and demonstrate the techniques, economics and utility of integrating two way interactive video communications into the education process. The Simulation Laboratory will provide the capability of evaluating several prototype systems.

3. The Department of Communications does not have this type of Laboratory and it is not available anywhere else in Canada.