

The United Nations Centre for Disarmament has calculated that \$18.5 billion yearly would provide adequate food, water, education, health and housing for the world poor. I plead with the Government and all Members of Parliament to take this message seriously. We now have enough nuclear armaments on both sides to destroy all life on this planet. We also have abject poverty, hunger, and suffering.

This Saturday Canadians are asked to show their support for disarmament by demonstrations, rallies, and other activities. On Monday several MPs in this House will fast for one day and send the money saved to OXFAM and other aid agencies. This action can be considered only one step in a continuing movement to make the world secure and reduce poverty.

Madam Speaker: Order, please. The Hon. Member's time is up.

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NATIONAL GALLERY

THEFT OF REMBRANDT ETCHINGS—REVIEW OF SECURITY PROCEDURES DEMANDED

Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Madam Speaker, Ottawa police and the National Gallery of Canada have confirmed that last Friday a man claiming to do research on our national treasures walked away with two Rembrandt etchings, replacing them with phonies. The man, using an alias, apparently had impressive enough credentials to be allowed to spend six hours in the Gallery's vault. In any event, the two etchings, whose estimated value is \$100,000 each, are missing, along with the individual. This theft followed by a few months an incident at the Public Archives where another man, again with legitimate credentials, asked to study the calligraphy on the original Constitution proclamation. He defaced the document with red paint.

I urge the Minister of Communications (Mr. Fox) to meet with the directors of the National Museums of Canada, the National Library and the Public Archives to ask for a review of their security procedures. The need for security, of course, must be balanced with that of the legitimate requirements of scholarly research. However, Canada's cultural heritage, whether original copies of our Constitution proclamations or valuable art works, is held by these agencies in trust for the people of Canada. The Minister must ensure that trust is upheld. I hope to question the Minister of Communications on the matter later this day, Madam Speaker.

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INCOME TAX

DEPARTMENT'S TREATMENT OF MEMBERS OF TORONTO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Madam Speaker, over the past eight months Revenue Canada has systematically

focused its attentions on the tax status of participants in our cultural and artistic communities. Last week we had a situation where a prominent visual artist was forced by tax regulations to consider destroying his art. This week we have the case of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and its musicians, traditionally self-employed, who have been told they must consider themselves employees of the Symphony, despite the fact that they work for the Symphony less than 20 hours a week, are frequently engaged in other activities, and pay for and supply their own instruments. The effect on the musicians is a substantial reduction in their already modest income, forcing some musicians to leave the Symphony. This ruling comes after two similar rulings on Symphony orchestras in other cities have been overturned on appeal.

On the one hand Revenue Canada acts to restrict the production by visual artists, forces musicians out of orchestras, and actors out of theatre companies. On the other hand the Government spends millions of dollars on inquiring into the problems of culture in Canada. Is there not a contradiction there? Musicians, artists, actors, and writers, those who invest their lives in creating art and culture in this country, and who have very modest incomes, are harassed and denigrated. Yet in 1980 close to 5,000 Canadians making over \$50,000 a year paid no tax at all as a result of tax loopholes and generous investment breaks. We say, let the cultural community create and perform, and let the taxman focus attention where it is needed.

Madam Speaker: Order. The Hon. Member's time is up.

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MEDICAL CARE

INCREASE IN DOCTORS' MALPRACTICE INSURANCE PREMIUMS

Mr. Stanley Hudecki (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Defence): Madam Speaker, when evaluating the costs of Canada's health care system I am concerned with the inadequate consideration given to two recent developments in the practice of medicine in this country. First, the Canadian Medical Protective Association is proposing to raise drastically its annual fees for malpractice insurance, now set at \$500 for every member, to between \$300 and \$2,900 annually, depending on the degree of risk of being sued according to each specialty.

In the past the difference in malpractice insurance costs incurred by the various medical specialties was distributed amongst all members. With the increased complexity and sophistication of medical and surgical procedures, the risk of litigation is becoming greater, and therefore serious consideration is being given to the feasibility of identifying categories of medical practice in terms of hazards and costliness of the medical legal problems which arise. Secondly, longer consultation times between doctors and their patients are required so that patients will have a better awareness of the possible complications which may be expected from surgical and other procedures before treatment is undertaken.