

## INDIAN AFFAIRS

### CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT POLICY

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, the aboriginal peoples of Canada have good reason to be suspicious of the Conservative Party's agenda. Buffalo Jump of the 1980s is without doubt the political agenda of this Government.

Add to this the press release of August 2, from the Minister of Indian Affairs (Mr. McKnight). The headline reads: "Amendment to Indian Act Removes 'Death Rule' ". That statement is false. There is no Bill before Parliament and no such amendment has been passed. In fact, even today the Minister's office refuses to provide a copy of the proposal.

This same Minister has Bill C-122 before the legislative committee. This is legislation designed to cut the statutory powers of Indian by-laws. This legislation is unanimously opposed by the chiefs of the First Nations.

Add to this the illegitimate withholding of Bill C-123 on minors' trusts and estates, a Bill completed and to have been reported to Parliament over two weeks ago from the legislative committee. Add to this the improper and illegitimate withholding of the report of the Standing Committee on Bill C-31, a report required by statute to be reported forthwith, and still withheld by the Conservatives from Parliament and the public, a report completed some two months ago. The Minister and his minions abuse the truth, this House, and the First Nations by such actions.

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## NATIONAL ART GALLERY

### VIDEO SHOWING HOMOSEXUAL INTERCOURSE

**Mr. Jim Jepson (London East):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday I read on the front page of *The Ottawa Citizen* that, believe it or not, pornographic videos were being shown under the guise of so-called art at the new National Art Gallery. One video, according to the article, showed a close-up of male genitals and intercourse between males as well as other homosexual acts.

The assistant curator of film and video was quoted as saying that the work being shown is unquestionably art. The curator says they explore the difficult questions of our time: sexual identity and the role of the media in our lives.

With such comments as this, is it any wonder some people in the art community have successfully persuaded the Justice Department officials to deep-six the Government's pornography Bill, Bill C-54, in spite of overwhelming public support and mail to the Justice Department? How much garbage such as these videos is society to tolerate in the name of so-called art?

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## FAMILY VIOLENCE

### NEED FOR SECOND-STAGE HOUSING

**Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East):** Mr. Speaker, I almost gagged when I read the comments made by the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) in his maiden speech to Parliament on a Bill before the House. He took credit for everything. The things he took credit for were incredible.

What the Prime Minister did not tell the Canadian people and particularly the women of Canada is why it is that under his Government in 1986, we saw for the first time the wage gap between men and women actually getting wider. Why is it that he has introduced a program to assist victims of family violence which will not create a single second-stage house across Canada?

Why is it that in my own community of Hamilton the women's organizations are actually going begging for funds to keep five apartments open for women who have been battered? A woman with five children who will be homeless and out on the street cannot qualify for that program because the Government does not believe in second-stage housing.

The Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Epp) himself said that he could not philosophically support second-stage housing. The women of Canada will not be bought by these ridiculous statements.

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## INCOME TAX

### ENVIRONMENTAL MEDICAL PRESCRIPTIONS—TAX TREATMENT

**Mr. Alan Redway (York East):** Mr. Speaker, environmental hypersensitivity is a condition resulting from the inability of the immune system to cope with everyday normal exposure to such things as food, water, mould or dust. The medical treatment for this condition often requires expensive home modifications, and changes in diet and lifestyle.

The Income Tax Act allows only prescriptions dispensed by a licensed pharmacist to be deducted as medical expenses. Special environmental prescriptions are usually not available in a pharmacy. It is time that the Government amended the Income Tax Act to provide equal tax treatment for Canadians who require environmental medical prescriptions.

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## AGRICULTURE

### DIFFICULTIES FACED BY FARMERS

**Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River):** Mr. Speaker, farming is a gamble and a worry. If it is not the grasshoppers, it is the stink bugs; if it is not drought, it is early frost; if the crops are good,