

S.O. 21

THE JUDICIARY

REQUIREMENT TO BE ABOVE PARTISAN, REGIONAL, AND
POLITICAL PRIORITIES

Mr. Reginald Stackhouse (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, the late Chief Justice John Cartwright once said that the courts should be like the navy—a silent service. There are many reasons for this, but the primary one must be our need for an authority that is above partisan or regional or ideological priorities.

As the late Chief Justice Bora Laskin said of the Supreme Court of Canada: "It is a national institution—just as there is no federal allegiance, there is no regional allegiance and no political allegiance."

Essential to democracy is variance of opinion, but also essential is a court capable of having the last word in disputes because it is never party to disputes. If judicial spokesmen enter the arena of political debate, everyone will lose, but they will lose the most.

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ENVIRONMENT WEEK

CRITICISM OF ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, Kevin and Kate Oswald of Kingston wrote to the Minister of the Environment (Mr. McMillan) about Environment Week. They state:

What impact will this campaign have on the 85 chemical contaminants in Lake Ontario, 8 of which are known carcinogens?

On Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday we are to "tune it up"—what? Our cars? From Tuesday to Friday "let's give it up"—what? Smoking? Driving? Detergent? Breathing? And it would seem that at the end of the week we are all to water our lawns and pick up the garbage or plant a few trees at a local national park. "Let's green it up" the campaign ad proclaims! To belittle such a vital concern is black humour at its worst.

Would it not be better for the ministry to appeal to the millions of people in Canada for their support in a campaign that applies pressure on the industries and the government departments who can administer an order of change? Use us, let us vote on these issues, let our numbers make a difference in the magnitude of the effect. We want to help, what can we do that is not trivial?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Sixty seconds.

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WAR CRIMINALS

DESCHÊNES COMMISSION—REFUSAL OF SOVIET INVITATION

Mr. Bob Pennock (Etobicoke North): Mr. Speaker, the Deschênes Commission has correctly refused an invitation from the Soviets to collect evidence on alleged Nazi war criminals in Canada.

I have spoken on many occasions, as have several of my colleagues, to warn of the likelihood that the Soviets would

manipulate the proceedings to serve their own political goals. The six safeguards contained in Justice Deschênes' ruling were designed to protect against such manipulation. We now learn that the Soviets fully intended to conduct this investigation entirely under the criminal procedure of the U.S.S.R. Soviet justice is not justice. I am glad to see the Commission recognizes that fact.

• (1410)

I know all Canadians will join with me in commending Justice Deschênes and other members of his Commission for not compromising the Canadian judicial process.

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[Translation]

POLITICAL PARTIES

YOUNG QUEBEC LIBERALS—GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT
UNIVERSITY OF MONTREAL

Mr. Guy Ricard (Laval): Mr. Speaker, last week, Quebec youth members of the Liberal Party of Canada held a general meeting at the University of Montreal to discuss differences between Canada and the United States. Aided by their mentors, the Hon. Members for Montreal—Sainte-Marie (Mr. Malépart), Saint-Denis (Mr. Prud'homme) and Laurier (Mr. Berger), they recognized the PLO as the chief spokesman for the Palestinians, on the premise that it was necessary to create a Palestinian state.

Mr. Speaker, I want to warn the Canadian people against the muddled policies of the Liberal Party. A party whose foreign policy is based on supporting a non-democratically elected group is itself a reflection of hypocrisy and anarchy. This policy is as dangerous as the Member-mentors and activists that defend it.

These Young Liberals who see themselves as the conscience of their party are not only undermining the credibility of the Canadian Government, they are also encouraging revolutionary and terrorist movements to expand.

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[English]

CANADIAN POST CORPORATION

ELIMINATION OF RURAL DELIVERY ROUTES

Mr. Cyril Keeper (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, over the weekend we in Winnipeg learned via the media that 10 rural routes were being cut by Canada Post. Until now rural routes have brought the mail home. Now some rural residents will have to travel as far as 15 kilometres away, at a cost of up to \$700 a year, just to get their mail. In some cases