

S. O. 21

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion? [English]

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those opposed will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): In my opinion the yeas have it.

And more than five Members having risen:

Mr. Speaker: Call in the members.

• (1250)

And the division bells having rung:

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order. It being one o'clock, pursuant to Standing Order 9(2), I declare that the motion has lapsed. Therefore, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock this day.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 21

[Translation]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

NEED TO SUPPORT MLA PIQUETTE WHO HAS BEEN REFUSED RIGHT TO SPEAK FRENCH IN ALBERTA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Last Tuesday Alberta MLA Piquette was denied the right to speak French in the Alberta Legislative Assembly. Mr. Speaker, I want to say that I back his action and this morning I sent Mr. Piquette a telegram to express my support. I invite all Members of this House, regardless of their political affiliation, to stand behind Mr. Piquette and acknowledge the principle of the two official languages. I also urge the Prime Minister of Canada (Mr. Mulroney) to put this topic on the agenda of the next constitutional conference.

CANADA POST CORPORATION

FREE CARRIAGE OF MAIL BY NORTHWEST TERRITORIES AIRCRAFT PILOTS

Mr. Dave Nickerson (Western Arctic): Mr. Speaker, in any other business the term "courtesy service" would have something to do with prompt, efficient service to the customer. To Canada Post Corporation, however, it means that travellers are expected to transport the mail free of charge as a courtesy to the post office.

Mail to and from the communities of Colville Lake, Jean Marie River, Trout Lake and Nahanni Butte in the Northwest Territories will not arrive unless delivered by some kindly, itinerant pilot who carries the mail bag out of the kindness of his or her heart and without recompense for his or her trouble.

Surely in this so-called "information age" this level of non-service where mail deliveries can be three weeks apart is completely unacceptable.

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[Translation]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

COURAGE OF NEW DEMOCRATIC ALBERTA MLA, LÉO PIQUETTE—SUPPORT OF CANADA AND QUEBEC NEW DEMOCRATS

Mr. Robert Toupin (Terrebonne): Mr. Speaker, I must express the pride I feel with respect to NDP Alberta MLA Léo Piquette and the cause he is defending, namely the recognition of French in Alberta. It shows he is a courageous man, and I want to assure him that all New Democrats in Quebec and the rest of Canada are behind him with encouragement and support in the defence and recognition of the French language in Alberta.

That is a concrete and specific example of New Democratic action in favour of the recognition of the French language.

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RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES

Mrs. Suzanne Duplessis (Louis-Hébert): Mr. Speaker, today in his article on federal research and development contracts in Quebec, Michel Vastel once again searched his prodigious memory and came up with statistics tailor-made to create regional tension, distort the performance of this Government and above all, raise suspicions about our efforts to bring about national reconciliation. Mr. Vastel, with his selective memory, used only DSS statistics for research and