

Indian Affairs

of mine. All the people working at the Public Archives are dedicated, hard working Canadians who deserve our credit and support and who, I might say, are working in very cramped and inadequate quarters at the present time. I have written to the Minister of Communications and to the Dominion Archivist about the need for new facilities for the Public Archives. I have also raised this issue before Treasury Board officials in committees of this House. I know the Minister is aware of the accommodation problems of the Public Archives of Canada. I know he intends to do something about these problems and will be having a new building erected in the near future.

There is also a problem in the off-site storage of documents and records. It is a very severe problem that will continue even after the new building is erected. I had occasion recently to visit the main off-site facility which is in operation at the present time in the downtown area of the City of Ottawa. This facility is in the basement of the old Journal Towers which was occupied by *The Ottawa Journal*, that late lamented newspaper that we in the nation's capital could always count on to give a fair, unbiased and objective view of public affairs. The *Ottawa Journal* is very much missed by reasonable Canadians in the nation's capital. In the press rooms on the third sub-basement level are stored many of our nation's priceless treasures, the documents of many Canadian statesmen and many Canadian private citizens of great repute.

I was shocked by what I saw there a few weeks ago when I visited that facility. I saw papers of people like Sir Charles Tupper, a former Prime Minister whose term in office was only exceeded in its brevity by that of the present Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner), in facilities that are totally inadequate for storage. There are pipes on the ceilings which leak periodically and at unpredictable times. I saw the papers of a former Leader of the Opposition, the Hon. George Drew, a predecessor of mine in the riding of Ottawa West, a former Premier of Ontario and High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, where sewage from the overhead pipes had leaked onto the boxes containing his papers. I brought this deplorable situation to the attention of the Dominion Archivist and the Minister. The Dominion Archivist is well aware of the problem and has sent me dozens of photographs documenting other things. I urge the Minister of Communications to use his influence with his colleagues in Treasury Board to provide the necessary funding now, not just for a new building for the Public Archives of Canada but for the immediate securing of new and appropriate off-site storage facilities here in Ottawa for the storage of these priceless artifacts.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is the House ready for the question?

Mr. Boudria: Mr. Speaker, I have a very brief comment and a question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please. It being four o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of Private Members' Business as listed on today's Order Paper.

• (1600)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS— MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

[English]

INDIAN AFFAIRS

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN WESTBANK BAND AND DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Lorne Greenaway (Cariboo—Chilcotin) moved:

That an humble Address be presented to Her Excellency praying that she will cause to be laid before this House copies of all correspondence, notes, minutes of meetings, telephone calls, studies and other communications during the years 1980, 1981 and 1982 between (a) the Regional Director General for British Columbia of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development or any of his officials and Mr. Noll Derriksan or Toussowasket Enterprises Limited or any official or employee of Toussowasket Enterprises (b) Mr. Noll Derriksan or Toussowasket Enterprises or any official or employee of Toussowasket Enterprises Limited and the Indian Economic Development Fund (c) the Regional Director General for British Columbia of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development or any of his officials and the Westbank Development Company or any official or employee of the Westbank Development Company (d) the Regional Director General for British Columbia of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development or his officials and Mr. Ron Derriksan or the Westbank Indian Bank regarding Mr. Noll Derriksan, Toussowasket Enterprises Limited or any official or employee of Toussowasket Enterprises Limited or the Mount Boucherie Trailer Park or any financial arrangements associated with the above (e) the Regional Director General for British Columbia of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Headquarters Economic Development Branch of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development regarding Mr. Noll Derriksan, Toussowasket Enterprises Limited or any official or employee of Toussowasket Enterprises Limited, the Mount Boucherie Trailer Park, Mr. Ron Derriksan, the Westbank Indian Band or the Westbank Development Company.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The Hon. Member for Cariboo-Chilcotin (Mr. Greenaway).

Mr. Nunziata: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. It has been brought to my attention that the Hon. Member moving this motion is named as a defendant in a civil suit. The Member can correct me if I am mistaken, but as I understand it the action was filed approximately one month ago in a court of law. In view of that fact, I submit it is inappropriate for this House at this time to deal with this matter based on the *sub judice* rule. It would, in my respectful submission, also be inappropriate generally to discuss this matter for a number of other reasons.

I am advised as well that some very serious allegations of criminal activity have been suggested by the Hon. Member at a committee meeting on—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please. I do not think this has anything to do with what we are going to be discussing here today. The *sub judice* rule does not apply in this particular case. I hope the Hon. Member will not debate this any further and that we can carry on. I will have to rule him out of order.

Mr. Nunziata: I have a separate point of order, Mr. Speaker. It is regrettable but if that is your ruling, I will respect it. Given that the case is before the courts, I think it is improper for this House to deal with it.