

*Business of the House***CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION**

**Mr. Simon de Jong (Regina—Qu'Appelle, NDP):** Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Canadian Heritage.

The CBC, one of the few remaining ties helping to keep our country together, is about to snap. The president of the CBC has warned that any further cuts would so drastically reduce the CBC that a change to its legislated mandate would be necessary. The minister, however, earlier today in the House guaranteed that the budget will fit the mandate, not the mandate the budget.

Does the government really want the CBC to continue to exist? If it does, will the government rescind the further \$123 million in cuts it has ordered and provide the CBC with multi-year funding as promised in the red book?

**Hon. Michel Dupuy (Minister of Canadian Heritage, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, we are on record as supporting a strong public broadcaster and supporting the CBC.

• (1500)

We will indeed be looking at the future financing requirements of the CBC once we have decided on the mandate.

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**HEALTH OF WOMEN**

**Mrs. Jane Stewart (Brant, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, in my riding of Brant we are very concerned about the high incidence of low birth weight babies, about the increasing impact of heart disease on women, about osteoporosis, about breast and uterine cancer.

What is the minister doing to resolve these concerns and make good our promises in the red book to attend to the health issues of women?

**Hon. Diane Marleau (Minister of Health, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, the health of women continues to be a priority for this government.

In recent times, especially in the month of November, we have made a couple of very big announcements. One is the call for letters of intent for the centres of excellence on women's health. Another is the announcement that my American counterpart, Donna Shelala, the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, and I will be co-hosting a forum on women's health in March 1995 here in Ottawa.

As well, we have a number of initiatives, including the prenatal nutrition program and programs addressing women and tobacco use. We have also been doing a lot of work on ensuring that women are a part of clinical trials.

In everything we do, we continue to check on the effects on women and their health.

**PRESENCE IN GALLERY**

**The Speaker:** My colleagues, I wish to draw your attention to the presence in the gallery of the Hon. Dr. Martin Bartenstein, federal Minister of the Environment of the Republic of Austria.

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear.

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**POINTS OF ORDER****QUESTION PERIOD**

**Mr. Ed Harper (Simcoe Centre, Ref.):** Mr. Speaker, during question period, in an answer to a question from the member for St. Albert, in a very feeble attempt to justify the infrastructure program the finance minister said that it was justified on the basis that the member for Simcoe Centre kept writing letters requesting money.

While we cannot call a minister a fibber, I think we have to make sure that the truth comes out. The truth is that there was one letter written and it involved the private sector. That is the only letter that was written.

**The Speaker:** I think the point has been made.

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[Translation]

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

**Mr. Michel Gauthier (Roberval, BQ):** With a very short preamble, Mr. Speaker, I would like to know from the government House leader what our legislative menu will be.

[English]

**Hon. Herb Gray (Leader of the Government in the House of Commons and Solicitor General of Canada, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, I want to make it clear that I am only going to make one statement right now.

The weekly business statement is as follows. We will continue today and tomorrow with Bill C-83, respecting the environmental auditor general; followed by Bill C-100, the financial institutions legislation; followed by Bill C-52, the public works and government services departmental reorganization.

On Monday we will begin with Bill C-108, the housing bill, and then return to the point on the list where we left off on Friday.

I would add to the list of bills for next week Bill C-99, the Small Business Loans Act amendments; Bill C-94, the fuel additives bill; Bill C-101, the transportation legislation; and Bill C-107, the British Columbia treaties bill.

Finally, Tuesday, November 28, and Thursday, November 30, shall be opposition days.