

This case is under appeal and there are limitations on what either of us can say with respect to it.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona. Please bear in mind the problems.

GOVERNMENT SUBMISSIONS

Mr. David Kilgour (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, the Minister and I are both lawyers. Why is the Minister opposed to the position of Roger Bilodeau on the basis of the "shall" being a mandatory, and on the basis of necessity, which is the position his factum takes in the Supreme Court of Canada? His position seems to me to be inconsistent with the position of the Prime Minister and Section 23 of the Charter of Rights. Can he tell us why this is?

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, there was certainly no such inconsistency. However, in light of possible happenings in Manitoba I think the federal submissions before the Supreme Court of Canada will clearly have to be reconsidered.

* * *

NATIONAL REVENUE

DEPUTY MINISTER—MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. G. M. Gurbin (Bruce-Grey): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Revenue. I would like to apologize to the Minister of National Revenue. I have been listening carefully over the last number of days, and particularly today, to his answers, because I have had a veritable flood of difficulties in my constituency with Revenue Canada to the extent that my constituents and myself have lost confidence in the tax system.

I could not understand the Minister's response to a number of previous questioners today. Was his answer yes or no when he was asked whether he had confidence in his Deputy Minister?

[Translation]

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I have the impression that the Hon. Member needs more time before my answers sink in. I would urge him to ponder over them in *Hansard* next week to find out the answer he is seeking.

* * *

[English]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

COURT HEARING ON CRUISE MISSILE TESTING

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, in the recurring absence of the Prime Minister, my question is for the Minister of Justice. Members of the House, and Canadians generally,

Oral Questions

know the position taken by the Minister and the Prime Minister in the past on matters that are before the courts, particularly the Supreme Court of Canada. Would he tell Members of the House what his position is on the testing of the Cruise missile in Canada? Would he not agree that it should be stopped, completely terminated, while this matter is before the courts, simply on the principle of British common law and law practised in this country?

● (1150)

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, if the Hon. Member is addressing his question to me on the basis of the law, and indeed that is the only kind of question to which my portfolio would allow me to reply, the answer is that he is clearly wrong. In our law the remedy in such a situation is an injunction. It is not to ask parties to stop short of an injunction. Therefore, there is certainly no legal requirement on the federal Government in such a case.

If my hon. friend has a question of policy, he will have to address it to the appropriate Minister.

* * *

THE PRESS

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING IN ETHNIC PRESS

Hon. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton North): Mr. Speaker, my question was to be directed to the Minister of Multiculturalism, but he is in Toronto cutting back all kinds of grants for the ethnic press. I will direct my question to the Secretary of State who is senior Minister in that particular Department. Why is the Minister of Multiculturalism cutting back on government advertising to the ethnic press, particularly in metro Toronto? Does his Government separate it between Grits and Tories? What is happening?

Hon. Serge Joyal (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member has raised a point that creates many questions around his allegation. If I remember well, less than a year ago there was an announcement by the then Minister of Multiculturalism that there was an enrichment of the programs of the Secretary of State in support of the ethnic press in Canada. I am quite sure that in the application of the criteria to support the ethnic press, some cases may have been reviewed along the lines of the criteria of the program. But the total budget that has been allocated for that specific program has been increased by many hundreds of thousands of dollars in the last year.

There might be one case where that could be questioned, and we would like to look into the definite details of that case. On the whole, my recollection is that the program has been enriched and that the over-all community should profit from it.