Oral Questions

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands): Madam Speaker, Statistics Canada reported that 166,000 students were out of work in May, an increase of 60,000 since 1990.

Why does the Minister of Employment and Immigration continue to reduce funding for student employment programs when unemployment in this group is at crisis proportions?

Hon. Pierre H. Cadieux (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport) and Minister of State (Youth) and Deputy Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Madam Speaker, as the hon. member should know because the question has been answered a number of times in the House, contrary to what he is trying to suggest today the budget for summer employment was increased, not decreased.

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PRIVILEGE

COMMENTS DURING QUESTION PERIOD

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Madam Speaker, in the course of Question Period I commented on the absence of the minister of health. It has since come to my attention that he was delivering the eulogy at a funeral. Of course I would not want it to be left on the record that I in any way expected him not to fulfil his responsibilities in that area.

I apologize for commenting on his absence when he was obviously doing something very important.

Madam Deputy Speaker: I thank the hon. member for her apology.

Something for all of us to remember is that before we accuse someone of not being present sometimes we should inquire or simply not mention it, as that is what our rules say.

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POINT OF ORDER

STATEMENT PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

Madam Deputy Speaker: There is another point I would also like to bring to the attention of the House. I made a mistake earlier this day when I recognized the hon. parliamentary secretary to the government House

leader on a point of order during statements by members.

The only reason why a point of order would be recognizable at that time would be if there was really something unparliamentary. As I had been speaking to someone who was at the chair with me, I thought maybe there was something serious I had not heard, which is why I recognized the hon. member. I should not have done so. The hon. member has other opportunities of putting something on the record. I am sure he would find the reason. I should not have recognized him on a point of order at that point.

I do apologize for the House. I guess it is a learning process for all of us.

Mr. Jim Edwards (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Madam Speaker, I hope I did not inconvenience the House or the Chair with that intervention.

What I had intended to say at that time was that I thought the hon. member would find the record would show that the parliamentary secretary said yesterday the report was conclusive not unanimous, as the hon. member had suggested.

Madam Deputy Speaker: The point has been made. The hon. member knows that this a question of debate and not really a question of order itself.

I thought the hon. member was going to apologize for raising a point of order in the middle of the statement by members. This is why I recognized him.

Mr. Edwards: Madam Speaker, I did.

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[Translation]

WAYS AND MEANS

TABLING OF NOTICE OF MOTION

Hon. John McDermid (Minister of State (Finance and Privatization)): Madam Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 83(1), I have the honour to lay upon the table a Notice of Ways and Means motion to amend the Income Tax Act, the Pension Plan, the Income Tax Conventions Interpretation Act, the Tax Rebate Discounting Act, the Unemployment Insurance Act and certain related Acts. Madam Speaker, I ask that you designate an Order of the Day for the consideration of the said motion.