

• (1105)

As the member of Parliament for Burlington, a riding that has been greatly affected by the crimes Mr. Bernardo is accused of committing, I believe that justice would be better served without the glare of television cameras.

I question why the CBC would apply to televise this case. Is it possible the corporation believes that Canadians wish to emulate the U.S. system with its phantasmagoric coverage of trials like that of O. J. Simpson? I say it is wrong.

Canadian courts are open and accessible. Individual Canadians interested in knowing more about our court system can attend all the various levels and can watch televised Supreme Court of Canada trials where witnesses are not heard.

It is not worth experimenting in this case. We cannot afford to take risks, intimidate witnesses and exacerbate the Mahaffey and French families' pain. Justice must be served. The trial must run smoothly. The trial should not be televised.

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[Translation]

REFERENDUM ON QUEBEC SOVEREIGNTY

Mr. Gaston Leroux (Richmond—Wolfe, BQ): Mr. Speaker, Robert Young, a respected political scientist from the University of Western Ontario, has stated that Canada would engage in negotiations with Quebec soon after a "yes" in the referendum.

Contrary to some recent studies which predict chaos and certain doom after a victory for the "yes" side in the referendum, the scenario described in Mr. Young's book is based to a greater extent on a deep respect for the most rudimentary principles of democracy. The political scientist does not hesitate in the least in stating that Canada would accept the decision of Quebecers and swiftly recognize the new country.

In spite of the federalist strategy intended to strike fear into the hearts of Quebecers, experts on Canadian politics are for their part now making their views known: Canada would in its own interest respect the choice made by Quebecers.

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[English]

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Mr. Jim Hart (Okanagan—Similkameen—Merritt, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the constituents of Okanagan—Similkameen—Merritt to draw the attention of the House to the visitors' gallery where His Worship, the Mayor of Oliver, British Columbia, Rick Wilson, is watching the proceedings today. As well, 20 members of the British Columbia cross-country ski team are in the area to compete in the

Canadian junior cross-country ski championship being held at Camp Fortune.

I would like to give special mention to some of the team members. The first is Tara Moran who won a silver medal in the five-kilometre classic technique at the recent Canada Winter Games and another silver medal yesterday at the Canadian cross-country ski championship. I would also like to congratulate Gavin Murdoch and Chad Bergen who won silver medals yesterday as well.

Competitions like this one serve all Canadians. Aside from having the opportunity to hone athletic skills, the competitors foster national unity and understanding by bringing Canadians together from all parts of the country.

On behalf of all members of Parliament, I welcome the British Columbia visitors to the nation's capital and wish the cross-country ski team continued success.

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PREMIER OF ONTARIO

Mr. Jerry Pickard (Essex—Kent, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, the provincial premiers whining about the federal budget is exceeded only by their inability to do simple math.

In Ontario it is a favourite pastime for Bob Rae to blame Ottawa for Ontario's economic woes. In his effort to get his pre-election posturing in an upright position, the Ontario silver spoon socialist continues to pout.

Where was Bob Rae when the federal government increased its education and health transfers to Ontario by 26 per cent between 1990 and 1994? He was shirking his responsibility by only increasing his provincial programs by 17 per cent, a full 9 per cent less than the federal government transferred to Ontario.

Bob Rae's outstanding contributions to Ontario are doubling the debt to over \$90 billion, downgrading Ontario's credit rating three times and running annual deficits of over \$10 billion.

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NORMAN BETHUNE

Mr. Andy Mitchell (Parry Sound—Muskoka, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join Bethune Memorial House in celebrating the birthday of Dr. Norman Bethune, born in my home town of Gravenhurst on March 3, 1890.

Dr. Bethune was a medical pioneer known in North America for tubercular research, in Spain for the first mobile blood service, and in China for building hospitals, training nurses and doctors, and treating the wounded.

His life was declared to be of national historical significance in this country in August 1972. His birth home was purchased and turned over to the Canadian parks service, which restored it as an interpretive memorial. The house has been open since