

*Routine Proceedings***PRESENCE IN GALLERY**

The Speaker: Colleagues, I wish to draw to your attention the presence in the gallery of the Hon. Stephen Kakfwi, Minister of Justice and Minister of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs from the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

[Translation]

The Speaker: I wish as well to draw the attention of members to the presence in our gallery of His Excellency Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Cuba.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

[English]

This brings question period to its conclusion.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

REPORT OF BYELECTIONS

The Speaker: I have the honour to lay upon the table the report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada entitled "The February 1995 Byelections: Another Step Forward".

[Translation]

Accordingly, pursuant to Standing Order 35, this document is deemed permanently referred to the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs.

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[English]

ORDER IN COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table, in both official languages, a number of order in council appointments that were made by the government.

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 110(1), these are deemed referred to the appropriate standing committees, a list of which is attached.

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[Translation]

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO PETITIONS

Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, while I have the floor and pursuant to Standing Order 78, I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the government's response to 36 petitions.

• (1505)

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

PROCEDURE AND HOUSE AFFAIRS

Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the 73rd report of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs regarding the list of committee members.

With the consent of the House, I intend to propose adoption of the 73rd report later today.

[English]

Mr. Speaker, I move that the 73rd report of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs, presented to the House earlier this day, be concurred in.

(Motion agreed to.)

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MOTION NO. M-5

Mr. Jim Jordan (Leeds—Grenville, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I wish to seek the consent of the House to withdraw Motion No. M-5. It is my motion in Private Members' Business and it deals with the issue of excise taxes on ethanol.

In December the government introduced legislation which will handle that situation to my satisfaction. The new ethanol program that deals with the issue was put forward then and further debate is not required now.

(Order discharged and motion withdrawn.)

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PETITIONS

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mrs. Shirley Maheu (Saint-Laurent—Cartierville, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I have the pleasure of presenting a petition from several residents in Quebec and more particularly the group Affordable Textbooks Now.

As the result of the increasing cost of textbooks which are needed for student studies, many people are forced to effectively break the law because they are photocopying in part or in whole many of the textbooks for which they are not in a position to pay.

Therefore they request that Parliament put an end to the GST on textbooks and take into account the high price of textbooks when allotting money for educational funding.

[Translation]

ARMENIAN PEOPLE

Mr. Michel Daviault (Ahuntsic, BQ): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour of submitting a petition signed by over 1,000 petitioners concerning the Armenian genocide. The petitioners note that our country, recognized as an active defender of democratic principles and human rights, has yet to officially