

Point of Order—Mr. Corbett

to tax, and when can we expect a ruling on this particular matter?

● (1500)

[*Translation*]

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue): Madam Speaker, if I remember correctly, unemployment insurance benefits paid to Indians who live on the reserve are taxable. Consequently, funds used to pay for the kind of projects the Hon. Member has just mentioned, funds that are paid out of the Unemployment Insurance Fund, would be taxable, while the additional amount to supplement the amount paid to a person as wages would not be taxable. In other words, there are two wage components, one from the Unemployment Insurance Fund, which would be taxable, and the wage supplement paid by another agency through the band council or another organization on the reserve, which would not be taxable.

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PETITIONS

TABLING OF REPORTS OF CLERK OF PETITIONS

Madam Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the Clerk of the House has laid upon the Table reports of the Clerk of Petitions stating that he has examined the petitions presented by Hon. Members on Wednesday, March 9, 1983, and finds that they meet the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

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POINT OF ORDER

MR. CORBETT—QUESTION ASKED OF MR. LEBLANC DURING QUESTION PERIOD

Mr. Bob Corbett (Fundy-Royal): Madam Speaker, I have a point of order which deals with the effort of the Minister responsible for Public Works to sleaze out of his responsibilities to answer a question with reference to a matter pertaining to his Department in New Brunswick by asking the Speaker for clarification as to whether or not in his capacity he is responsible for answering a political question with regard to the Province of New Brunswick. The record will clearly show that the question as I asked it was directed to the Minister responsible for Public Works. He knew that, and I suggest that it is time he started taking his responsibilities seriously.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Madam Speaker: The Hon. Member has made a point, but I do not consider it to be a point of order. I ruled on that matter. I was asked for guidance. The Minister felt that that particular

question referred to wider responsibilities than those of his Department and, of course, that is the rule.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. Lewis: Madam Speaker, today being Thursday, I would like to ask the Government House Leader whether he can advise us as to the business for next week.

I hope that in his explanation the Government House Leader will correct an impression which the Minister of State for International Trade tried to create in the country when he suggested there was a connection between the Government's commitment to fund the Calgary Olympics and the sports pool legislation. The Government House Leader knows that there is no connection. I would ask him to straighten that out for his colleague. At the same time, perhaps he could tell the House when the Government, which controls the sports pool legislation, intends to bring forward that legislation.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, as far as the business of the House for today and tomorrow is concerned, we shall continue debate in Committee of the Whole on Bill C-139. Next week on Monday, we shall complete second reading of Bill C-143 to authorize the Government to borrow certain sums of moneys. The House is aware that if necessary, debate will be interrupted at 5:45 p.m. Monday evening, for the vote. Next Tuesday and Thursday, we shall resume debate in Committee of the Whole on the important and urgent Bill concerning income tax. Next Wednesday will be Private Members' Day, as usual.

As far as the legislation on sports pools is concerned, I can confirm to the Hon. Member that it is very high on the Government's list of priorities, and, since he raised the issue, the Hon. Member will have to admit that on numerous occasions I have suggested completing debate on this Bill in one day it is now at the report stage and his answer was always negative. If the Hon. Member changes his mind, he should say so, since I am willing to reserve time tomorrow for completing debate on the report stage and second reading of the sports pools Bill.

[*English*]

Mr. Lewis: Madam Speaker, the Government House Leader finds it easy to gag his colleagues, and that is the way the Government operates. Over on this side of the House, we feel it should have full and honest debate, and we are prepared to debate at any time.

Mr. Deans: Madam Speaker, concerning the matter of the sports pool Bill, we are opposed to it and are prepared to deal with it the moment it is called.

I want to raise another matter, however, with regard to House business. The President of the Privy Council no doubt