

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I do not want to interrupt Hon. Members when they are presenting petitions but the Hon. Member is outlining the subject and not simply presenting a petition. I think he knows he should simply make a summary and read the prayer, perhaps.

**Mr. Thacker:** It is critical that Cabinet make a decision this week and I pray that it will do so.

#### CHILDREN'S EVIDENCE IN SEXUAL ABUSE CASES

**Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex-Windsor):** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition from my constituency of Essex-Windsor asking for action on the Badgley Report on sexual abuse of children. In particular, this petition urges the Government to take action on that part of the report which will permit children to give evidence in proceedings which deal with sexual abuses affecting them.

It has been undertaken by the Block Parents Groups throughout Essex-Windsor and represents an important initiative.

#### FULL INDEXATION OF FAMILY ALLOWANCE

**Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex-Windsor):** I have a second petition which deals with the question of family allowance and protests once more the cut-back in family allowances which has been implemented by this Government. It comes from my constituency, particularly the Town of Essex.

#### CHILDREN'S EVIDENCE IN SEXUAL ABUSE CASES

**Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor-Walkerville):** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition which has also been circulated by the Block Parents Association. It has collected some 700 signatures. It again refers to the failure to act on the Badgley Commission Report and it specifically expresses concern about the need for changes in the Criminal Code and the Canada Evidence Act to make it possible for children to testify without the requirement for technical corroboration. I would like to emphasize the fact that this is the first of many petitions since this is the beginning of a cross-country campaign to get a response to this issue.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Introduction of Bills.

**Mr. Belsher:** I have a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Are we finished with petitions?

**Mr. Speaker:** I am sorry, the Hon. Member did not rise. Is he now rising on a petition?

**Mr. Belsher:** I was up three times, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am perfectly happy if the House agrees to go back to petitions. However, I did look and the Hon. Member did not rise.

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

#### Order Paper Questions

#### OPPOSITION TO DIVORCE LEGISLATION

**Mr. Ross Belsher (Fraser Valley East):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present to the House a petition from the Association for Reformed Political Action located in Fraser Valley East. This association believes that marriage is an institution given to mankind by God and that the marriage vows carry the obligation of life-long commitment given under oath before God and witnesses. They are concerned about the federal Government's divorce legislation and ask Parliament to retract any legislation which would permit no fault divorce, no court divorce, or any other means of making divorce quick and easy.

**Mr. Speaker:** First reading of Senate Public Bills.

**Mr. Cochrane:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** May I remind Hon. Members that if they do not rise, I cannot recognize them.

**Mr. Cochrane:** If you don't see me, you don't know I have risen.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

#### QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

**Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, question No. 203 will be answered today.

[Text]

#### COST OF WOODS GORDON STUDY

Question No. 203—**Mr. Greenaway:**

1. What was the total amount paid to/or billed by the firm Woods Gordon for the study of the administration of the Income Tax Act by Revenue Canada?
2. Did Woods Gordon subcontract any of the work and, if so (a) to whom (b) what was the value of each subcontract (c) what was the nature of the work done by the subcontractors?
3. Will there be further costs associated with this study which Revenue Canada will have to bear and, if so, at what cost?
4. Will the study be made public and, if so, on what date?

**Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Minister of National Revenue):** 1. Total amount paid: \$2,206,708.

2. (a) Dimension Consultants. (b) \$205,000. (c) Survey of staff attitudes and concerns.

3. No.

4. Woods Gordon's summary report was tabled in the House of Commons on June 25, 1985.

[Translation]

**Mr. Lewis:** Mr. Speaker, I ask that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.