



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Monday, 18 September 1995 — No. 75

**President of the National Assembly:
Mr. Roger Bertrand**

QUÉBEC

Extraordinary Sitting

The Assembly was called to order at 2.11 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

Mr. Chevette, Government House Leader, tabled the following:

Answer to a written question by Mr. Gauthier (Verdun) concerning the registered charity organizations
— Question No. 24, *Order Paper and Notices* of 13 September 1995.

(Sessional Paper No. 637-950918)

Mrs. Beaudoin, Minister of Culture and Communications, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Musée du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1995.

(Sessional Paper No. 638-950918)

The annual report of the Régie des télécommunications du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March

1995.

(Sessional Paper No. 639-950918)

The annual report of the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1995.

(Sessional Paper No. 640-950918)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, tabled the following:

Copy of a letter, dated 1 September 1995, to Mrs. Lucie Brouillette of the Attorneys' Office of the Montréal Court House, from Mr. Jean Chartier, barrister, from the office of the Director General of Elections of Québec, regarding the case involving Mrs. Rita Dionne-Marsolais.

(Sessional Paper No. 641-950918)

The transcript of a press conference held by Mr. Pierre Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, and Mr. Thomas J. Mulcair, Member for Chomedey, on 15 September 1995, concerning the legal proceedings against Mrs. Rita Dionne-Marsolais with regard to a violation of the *Referendum Act*.

(Sessional Paper No. 642-950918)

The transcript of a press conference held by Mr. Paul Bégin, Minister of Justice, on 15 September 1995, concerning the legal proceedings against Mrs. Rita Dionne-Marsolais with regard to a violation of the *Referendum Act*.

(Sessional Paper No. 643-950918)

Complaints of Breach of Privilege or Contempt and Personal Explanations

Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice, Attorney General and Member for Louis-Hébert, raised a question regarding a possible breach of the privileges of the Assembly or of one of its Members on the part of Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, and Mr. Mulcair, Member for Chomedey, for allegedly defaming Mr. Bégin during a press conference on Friday, 15 September 1995.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Johnson, Leader of the Official Opposition, tabled the following:

A report on a study entitled "Les finances publiques et le projet de loi sur la souveraineté du Québec" (Public finance and the bill on the sovereignty of Québec), which was submitted to the Institut national de recherche scientifique by Messrs. Claude Fluet and Pierre Lefebvre of the department of economic science of the Université du Québec à Montréal in June 1995.

(Sessional Paper No. 644-950918)

Referring to Standing Order 69 (1), Mr. Chevrette, Government House Leader, rose on a question regarding a breach of privilege on the part of Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, who allegedly accused Mr. Chevrette of having presented to the Assembly, pursuant to section 55 (3) of the *Act respecting the National Assembly*, a false document with intent to deceive. Mr. Chevrette also indicated that he intended to move a motion in accordance with Standing Order 70.

At the request of Mr. President, Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

At the request of Mr. President, Mr. Le Hir, Minister for Restructuring, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

The Assembly resumed the debate on the motion moved by Mr. Parizeau, Prime Minister, and on the amendment by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay).

The main motion reads as follows:

THAT the French and the English texts of the question which is to be the subject of a referendum and which is to be entered on the ballot paper, pursuant to sections 8, 9 and 20 of the *Referendum Act*, be the following:

Acceptez-vous que le Québec devienne souverain, après avoir offert formellement au Canada un nouveau partenariat économique et politique, dans le cadre du projet de loi sur l'avenir du Québec et de l'entente signée le 12 juin 1995?

OUI

NON

Do you agree that Québec should become sovereign, after having made a formal offer to Canada for a new Economic and Political Partnership, within the scope of the Bill respecting the future of Québec and of the agreement signed on June 12, 1995?

YES

NO

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The amendment reads as follows:

THAT the motion under debate be amended:

- a) by adding, in the first line of the second paragraph, after the word "devienne", the words "un pays";
- b) by striking out, in the first line of the third paragraph, the word "sovereign" and substituting the following therefor: "a sovereign country".

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the French and the English texts of the question which is to be the subject of a referendum and which is to be entered on the ballot paper, pursuant to sections 8, 9 and 20 of the *Referendum Act*, be the following:

Acceptez-vous que le Québec devienne un pays souverain, après avoir offert formellement au Canada un nouveau partenariat économique et politique, dans le cadre du projet de loi sur l'avenir du Québec et de l'entente signée le 12 juin 1995?

OUI

NON

Do you agree that Québec should become a sovereign country, after having made a formal offer to Canada for a new Economic and Political Partnership, within the scope of the Bill respecting the future of Québec and of the agreement signed on June 12, 1995?

YES

NO

At 5.59 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 8.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 8.01 o'clock p.m.

Business Having Precedence

And debate continuing on the motion moved by Mr. Parizeau, Prime Minister, for the adoption of a question which is to be the subject of a referendum on the sovereignty of Québec and on an offer of a partnership with Canada, and on the amendment motion by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay);

On motion by Mr. Chevette, Government House Leader, the debate was adjourned.

At 11.25 o'clock p.m., on the motion by Mr. Chevette, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned until Tuesday, 19 September 1995, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

ROGER BERTRAND

President