

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

CRIMINAL CODE**REPRESENTATIONS ABOUT ABORTION AND HOMOSEXUALITY**

Mr. André Fortin (Loisbinière): I would like to put a question to the Prime Minister. Did he receive a petition signed by more than 70,000 family heads concerning abortion and homosexuality?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I did not receive such a petition, Mr. Speaker, for the whole debate is taking place in the house. In my opinion, the members were elected to represent the people and it is their duty to express their views.

Mr. Fortin: I would like to put a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. As it is very likely that the Prime Minister will receive this petition, does he intend to read it at least?

[English]

PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSIONER**APPOINTMENT OF OMBUDSMAN**

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice and it is direct. When does the minister expect to introduce legislation to establish the office of ombudsman? I ask him now because yesterday an ombudsman was appointed in Quebec and last week one was appointed in Hawaii. I think the federal government should follow suit.

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member certainly gets around. The whole review of the rights of the citizen against the administration and the bureaucracy is being pursued actively by the department from the point of view of administrative law and the structure to implement it. I cannot add anything more at present.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT**DECISION OF DESIGN COMMITTEE ON NATO COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE**

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Postmaster General. Did his recently appointed design advisory committee advise him on the department's current official cancellation message which notes the 20th anniversary of NATO, or did this commemoration stem directly and solely from the minister's enthusiasm?

[Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys).]

IMMIGRATION**ALLEGED SECRET GUIDELINES—POSSIBLE APPEARANCE OF UNITED CHURCH MODERATOR BEFORE STANDING COMMITTEE**

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration and is supplementary to others which have been asked this afternoon. Considering the seriousness of the minister's charge, that the moderator of the United Church of Canada has indulged in irresponsibilities, and in view of the minister's offer to appear before the committee when his estimates are considered, would he also favour an invitation being extended to Dr. McClure, so that he may appear before that committee as well?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, that is up to the committee.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I asked whether the minister would favour the invitation being given.

INDIAN AFFAIRS**APPLICATION OF S.O.68(1) TO INTRODUCE MEASURE THROUGH MOTION FOR COMMITTEE**

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister without Portfolio from Port Arthur relating to questions already asked on several occasions. In view of the serious situation that has developed in attempts to obtain new legislation dealing with Indians, who are reluctant and hesitant about accepting legislation prepared by the government, would the minister and his colleagues consider making use of Standing Order 68 (1) which provides that a bill may be introduced upon a motion to appoint a committee to prepare and bring it in? If the Indian people are given an opportunity to be consulted and to engage in research, we might be able to bring forward legislation within a short time by this means.

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, part of the review is consideration of the best methods of providing opportunities for consultation between the parties. The hon. member's suggestion is worthy and will be given full consideration.