

representations. I think my proper course of action is to allow Dr. Treu to do whatever he wants to do to make his views known, through counsel, to me.

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[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INQUIRY WHETHER GOVERNMENT KNOWS FATE OF MR. HUGO BLANCO OF PERU

Mr. Louis Duclos (Montmorency): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Can the minister tell the House, based on the latest reports from our embassy in Lima, what the situation is in Peru regarding the presidential election, and could he also advise us as to the fate of Mr. Hugo Blanco who was to be a candidate in the election but who, according to some sources, was arrested and secretly transported to Argentina along with six other Peruvian citizens?

[English]

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, on the first part of the question, I think it is common knowledge that there has been some delay in the election to which the hon. member refers, but I believe a new date has been set for either June 18 or 19 of this year. I am not exactly sure of the date.

We are also aware of the fact that the gentleman to whom he referred has apparently disappeared, but no word has come to us indicating what happened to him. We are continuing to make inquiries on a humanitarian basis.

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TRANSPORT

COAST GUARD BUILDING IN VICTORIA HARBOUR, B.C.

Mr. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport of which I have given him notice. I have been informed that Transport Canada intends to go ahead with the construction of a 30,000 square foot metal warehouse on the foreshore of the entrance to Victoria harbour. The Department of Public Works promised verbally on several occasions that the coast guard buildings would be built in conformity with local design requirements, but their present plans are not. Can the minister explain this unresponsiveness to the city's design plans, and does he intend to do anything about it?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am informed that the coast guard construction has the necessary building permit and also meets the city's zoning requirements. I am also informed that the high quality metal panels which are being used have high modifications included for such things as windows for the sake of appearance. I think,

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having regard to the combination of interests, including the amount of money which can and should be spent on a building of this type, a good balance has been achieved.

● (1442)

Mr. McKinnon: Mr. Speaker, the city of Victoria and other levels of government have chipped in and have spent millions of dollars on the beautification of Victoria harbour. They have turned down tens of millions of dollars of commercial development which did not fit in with their design plans for the harbour. The federal government, of all people, should not go in and despoil the beauty of that harbour.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. McKinnon: I would ask the minister if he would reconsider this decision, possibly appoint an independent architect to give him advice, or take the advice of the provincial government, the city of Victoria or the design panel committee—

An hon. Member: Anybody.

Mr. McKinnon: —or delay construction until after the next election, if we ever get it.

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I am afraid the hon. member has omitted any reference to the fact that in this case a building permit from the city was sought and obtained.

An hon. Member: So what?

Mr. Lang: I do not know whether the hon. member is suggesting that this coastguard operation should in fact have gone somewhere else. That may be a point. A decision like this could have been made. But there is obviously a limit to the amount that can be spent on a building which is essentially designed to warehouse a certain amount of materials and equipment.

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HEALTH AND WELFARE

EMIGRATION OF DOCTORS FROM CANADA

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the loss of almost 4,000 doctors from Canada during the years 1967 to 1977, and with increasing losses now, what plans does the minister have to rectify this situation? Can she assure the public that there will be enough graduates coming along, not to guarantee the quality of care, because you cannot guarantee the quality of care when the top men are lost, but to guarantee that there will be physicians available to look after the increasing number of geriatric patients in the next ten years?

Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, on the general problem of emigration