

order to clothe the provincial crime inquiry with a proper constitutional basis.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Justice whether the government feels an amendment to the British North America Act is necessary in order to bring about the legalization of that which the government's counsel, in a cozy way with the counsel for the underworld, is arguing to the contrary.

Mr. Basford: Well, Mr. Speaker, I am very startled that the right hon. member, a learned member of the bar, would ask the question and use the words he has.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Does the truth hurt?

Mr. Basford: With regard to the fact that he did choose to use language like that, it is not a reflection on me but rather a reflection on him. Concerning the question itself, stripped of its silly language—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Basford: —the answer is no.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS

MERCURY POISONING—GOVERNMENT ACTION TO PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE FOOD OR RELOCATE NATIVES

Mr. Arnold Malone (Battle River): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Since both the federal and provincial governments are warning native groups in the areas of Yellowknife, Dryden, Ontario and Matagami, Quebec, as well as in numerous other locations, not to eat fish because of high contamination of mercury, is the federal government, first, doing anything to provide an alternative protein supply and, second, is it doing anything to help these people relocate into other occupations?

Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first portion of the question is yes. Alternative sources of protein are being provided. The answer to the second portion of the question is that an effort is being made to create other forms of economic development on these reserves.

MERCURY POISONING—GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO NATIVES IN OBTAINING SETTLEMENT FOR DAMAGES FROM COMPANIES CONCERNED

Mr. Arnold Malone (Battle River): I have a final supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Is the federal government doing anything to assist the native groups to obtain proper settlement from companies such as Dryden Chemical Company or Domtar Limited which have contributed to the destruction of health and the means of livelihood of many native people.

Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, this matter is being investigated. Currently representatives from the province

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of Ontario, who are also very much involved in this since it is their law which has to be complied with, are investigating the compensation the people should have and to see whether in fact a basis for a lawsuit does exist against the company in Dryden.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

GOVERNMENT ACTION TO PREVENT TRAFFICKING IN PORNOGRAPHY

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. In view of the findings of the coroner and the coroner's jury the other day in the Poulin case in Ottawa regarding the harmful effects of pornography, may I ask the minister what steps he is taking in his capacity as Solicitor General of Canada to prevent inter-provincial traffic of this material and to prevent this material coming into the country in accordance with the provisions of Section 159 of the Criminal Code.

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, the RCMP is responsible for policing the transportation of pornography into the country from outside, but it is up to the attorneys general of the provinces to police the law within Canada and the hon. member will have to approach them with regard to that question.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Solicitor General, with regard to the provincial application of these provisions of the Criminal Code and in view of the findings of the coroner and the coroner's jury in this unfortunate case, if it is his intention to meet with the attorneys general of the provinces and include this matter in the revisions his colleague the Minister of Justice and he intend to bring to parliament shortly.

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, we had not considered amending any laws in respect of pornography. We could take the suggestion under consideration.

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[Translation]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM—APPLICABILITY OF GUIDELINES TO NEGOTIATIONS OF CLOTHING WORKERS

Mr. Serge Joyal (Maisonnette-Rosemont): Mr. Speaker, I had intended to put a question to the Minister of Labour, but in view of his absence, I shall put it to the Minister of Finance.

Can he tell the House whether he has met the representatives of the clothing workers union to discuss the application of the guidelines in Bill C-73 in the conflict that opposes them to their employers? If so, how can we ensure that the workers make up the salary to which they are entitled?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity of meeting the representa-