

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** I have no knowledge of the letter coming to my attention, Mr. Speaker, but I shall be glad to check into the matter.

**CANADA ASSISTANCE PLAN**

## REQUEST BY ATLANTIC PROVINCES FOR ALTERATION OF SHARING FORMULA

**Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Is the government studying the request of the four Atlantic provinces' governments to alter the sharing formula under the Canada Assistance Act? If so when is a decision expected?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member knows, I met with the provincial welfare ministers last Friday. They came forward with a proposal which I said I would be prepared to take under consideration and bring to my colleagues. This proposal will need to be examined by my department for some weeks prior to bringing the matter before the whole cabinet.

**AGRICULTURE**

## REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF FERTILIZER PRICES

**Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar):** Mr. Speaker, I have a rather urgent question for the Prime Minister in view of the absence of both the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In light of the fact that Esthol McKella, President of the Charlottetown Federation of Agriculture in Norfolk County, has called for an investigation into fertilizer prices by the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission, will the Prime Minister assure the House that the government will commence or cause to be commenced an investigation into these very serious charges?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I shall take the question as notice on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture who, as the House knows, is at the moment chairing the two-day ministerial meeting of the grain exporting countries.

**MANPOWER**

## YARMOUTH, N.S.—SERVICES TO LAID-OFF TEXTILE PLANT EMPLOYEES

**Mr. Louis-Roland Comeau (South Western Nova):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the

Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the fact that the Cosmos textile mill in Yarmouth has started its lay-offs, and in view of the fact that the minister said he would offer special services to the employees, can he tell us what these additional or special services are?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, the services that we provide are well known. They are especially geared to each situation and I am satisfied that in the Yarmouth case they will be helpful also.

**Mr. Comeau:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. The minister spoke about special services. If he cannot give me the answer in the House, would he write and tell me what these special services are?

**An hon. Member:** Funeral services.

**IMMIGRATION**

## NUMBER OF U.S. DRAFT DODGERS AND DESERTERS ADMITTED TO CANADA

**Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Would the minister indicate how many draft dodgers and deserters have been allowed to enter this country?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member is asking for statistical information. That kind of question ought normally to be placed on the Order Paper.

**PENITENTIARIES**

## INVESTIGATION OF OUTBREAKS OF VIOLENCE

**Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester North):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Solicitor General. Is the Solicitor General in a position to inform the House whether the outbreaks that have occurred in a number of penal institutions recently are under investigation by officials of his department? I refer especially to the grievous attack on correctional officers at Dorchester Penitentiary.

**Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, the first part of the question is in such general terms that it is difficult to answer. As to the latter part, I am not in a position to advise the House fully on the subject today but am having the matter looked into.