

and should have made in this area. As the hon. member knows, we received the final report just yesterday. We are looking at it very seriously and I will be happy to take whatever steps are necessary to do what we can to make certain that during the coming year we make better headway.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary question I would like to ask the President of the Treasury Board if he will look very closely at the sections in the report which deal with the first hired, first fired development and also with superannuation. The report says, for example, that the policy of equality which was established in the Public Service Superannuation Act is completely violated by the employment structures because women do not get steady employment as men do, and thus do not get the pensions to which they are entitled. It also says that these same structures of employment result in firings hitting women more than they do men.

Will the President of the Treasury Board look at these specific problems and do his best to get them corrected?

**Mr. Buchanan:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

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#### PUBLIC WORKS

##### SITE OF NEW UNITED STATES EMBASSY—PLANS FOR NEW COURTHOUSE

**Mr. Lloyd Francis (Ottawa West):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Public Works or, in his absence, his parliamentary secretary. Could the parliamentary secretary tell this House whether the United States Embassy intends to construct a new building for its operations in Cartier Square on a site made available by the Department of Public Works, and whether the province of Ontario intends to convert the Old Ottawa Teachers' College building, adjacent to the U.S. Embassy site, to a new courthouse?

**Mr. Hal Herbert (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Urban Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I understand that the U.S. embassy has concluded an agreement with the Department of Public Works and will be constructing a new embassy in the near future on the site mentioned by the hon. member for Ottawa West.

The province of Ontario has made proposals concerning the development of a new courthouse, and discussions are under way. The Government of Canada has offered an alternative site and this is being considered.

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#### ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

##### AUTHENTICITY OF DOCUMENT ON FIREARMS CONTROL

**Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I have given notice of my intention to ask a question of the

#### Oral Questions

Solicitor General. My question relates to a document I have passed to him, on which hopefully he can make a comment. The document is entitled "The police function in Canada as a control and enforcement agency in regards to amendments to the firearms section of the Criminal Code". One of the paragraphs in the document reads as follows:

—as far as an armed and organized public was concerned and it was felt in the interests of the function that it was desirous to ensure that the public be discreetly but effectively disarmed over a period of the forthcoming five years.

Having had an opportunity to study this document, I wonder if the Solicitor General can tell the House today whether it is authentic, and its source of information.

● (1450)

**Hon. J.-J. Blais (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, I have received a large number of letters from members of parliament who are concerned about that document. I want to indicate at the outset that the document is a phony. One finds, on reading it, that the forced officialese which is used can only indicate that whoever is the creator or the author of the document consciously attempted to concoct a document in order to create an inflammatory situation. In my view, it is the only blemish in an otherwise very positive reception that has been granted to the gun control program in the country.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Blais:** I would point out to the hon. gentleman that this document is false. I am addressing that question tomorrow at the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters in London, where I will be dealing with that document and its contents. There is no need for any member of the House, or indeed any member of the Canadian public, to be concerned.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Oberle:** Mr. Speaker, of course, I look at it as a source of comfort that the Solicitor General has told us now that we need not be concerned. This document has been widely circulated, has been published in magazines and has incited the antagonism of thousands of legitimate gun owners in the country, as well as creating all kinds of difficulties for members of parliament.

My question to the minister is, then: knowing that this document has been forged and is phony, knowing of its content and knowing how widely the document has been circulated, have the police or has the minister made any effort to find the source of the distribution of this kind of poison throughout the country, and what is the result of such an investigation?

**Mr. Blais:** Let me hasten to agree with the hon. gentleman that the document approximates poison. I wish to indicate, as well, my great disappointment at the fact that the National Firearms' Association, which I always assumed was a responsible gun owners' association, has seen fit, notwithstanding the patent falsehood of this document, to include it in one of its newsletters.