

*Oral Questions***ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE****POSSIBLE INVESTIGATION OF ILLEGAL DISCOUNTS, REBATES AND COMMISSIONS GIVEN BY AIRLINES TO TRAVEL AGENCIES**

**Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova):** Mr. Speaker, I have a brief question for the Solicitor General. Can the hon. gentleman confirm whether an investigation is being carried out by his department into the recent suggestions of possible violations of the criminal laws with regard to illegal discounts, rebates and commissions between Canadian airlines and travel agencies?

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General):** This has not been brought to my attention, Mr. Speaker, but I will look into it for the hon. member.

\* \* \*

**MULTICULTURALISM****MEASURES TO GIVE POLICY GREATER PRIORITY AND CREDIBILITY—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT**

**Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister arising out of the travels of the Special Committee on Immigration. Is the Prime Minister aware of the disappointment and displeasure registered by many Canadians as the result of the downgrading of multiculturalism and, if so, what specific steps are planned to give this policy a greater priority and more credibility?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the priority which the government attaches to the program of multiculturalism is very high indeed, and the actions of the government testify to that.

**Mr. Alexander:** In light of the fact that this policy was extremely important before the last election, following which it became less important, and in light of the fact that this policy is now tucked under the armpits of the Minister of Labour—

**An hon. Member:** Use Rightguard.

**Mr. Alexander:**—would the Prime Minister now give an undertaking that he will make a statement in the House regarding what multiculturalism means to the Government, why he found it necessary to remove from office the former minister of state in charge of multiculturalism, and why he finds something that was important in 1974 no longer important now? Would he make that statement in order that the views of the government, and particularly of the Prime Minister, of this country can be registered for the edification of the people?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Alexander:** I hope the Prime Minister will rise in his place and answer my question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Leader of the Opposition.

[Mr. Trudeau.]

**BILINGUALISM****SUGGESTED REVIEW OF METHODS OF ACHIEVING OBJECTIVE—GOVERNMENT CONCERN ABOUT COST-BENEFIT OF TECHNIQUES**

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** My question is directed to the right hon. Prime Minister and it arises out of a response given by the Secretary of State in which he said there was much more than cost-benefit involved in the bilingual program. In view of the importance of public support for this program, and in view of the possible interpretation that could be put upon the minister's answer—it might be interpreted to mean that expense is no factor in connection with this program—I should like to ask the Prime Minister, in view of the comments made by the Commissioner of Official Languages, whether the government is in fact reviewing the present methods to ascertain that they are the most effective in achieving the government's aim with regard to bilingualism in the public service, and whether the Prime Minister could assure the House that the government is concerned about the cost benefit of the various techniques being used?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I can give the hon. gentleman that assurance. As a matter of fact, a cabinet committee is convened for tomorrow to deal with this very matter and to look into certain aspects of Commissioner Spicer's report. I did discuss the matter with Commissioner Spicer some time ago and I have had correspondence with him since. The matter will be dealt with in cabinet committee tomorrow.

● (1500)

**Mr. Stanfield:** Mr. Speaker, does the Prime Minister believe that he might make some report to the House before the summer adjournment with regard to any change of emphasis in the bilingual program?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, I cannot give that assurance but I would remind the hon. gentleman that the last time I had that subject debated in the House I was told it was very divisive and unnecessary. I am glad the hon. gentlemen opposite have come around to the government's point of view.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Mr. Speaker, I hope the Prime Minister will recognize that I was trying to be helpful and correct a wrong interpretation to the response of one of his ministers.

**ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

[English]

**HOUSE OF COMMONS**

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF JOSEPH STANLEY RITCHIE, MELVIN SHEEHY AND PETER M. JOHNSTON, RURAL MAILMEN

**Mr. C. Douglas (Bruce-Grey):** Mr. Speaker, I would like at this time to pay tribute to three men who are in the