

NATIONAL REVENUE

PRACTICE OF DEPARTMENT IN ORDERING FORMS

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, with your permission perhaps I might reply further, as promised, to a question posed to me last week by the hon. member for York-Simcoe. I have inquired and am advised that my department does not order its forms from the private sector but obtains them through the Department of Supply and Services.

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PATENTS

REQUEST THAT ANNUAL REPORT OF CANADIAN PATENTS AND DEVELOPMENT LIMITED BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a brief question to the President of the Treasury Board. May I ask him whether or not he will direct that the annual report of Canadian Patents and Development Limited, a Crown corporation, be referred to the appropriate committee? If so, can he do so before June 15, and to which committee would he refer it?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I think the appropriate committee would be the Miscellaneous Estimates Committee. I will consult with the House leader about such a reference.

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HOUSING

MORATORIUM ON RENT INCREASES ON SENIOR CITIZENS' ACCOMMODATION OPERATED BY METRO TORONTO HOUSING COMPANY—STEPS TO EXTEND

Mr. Terry Grier (Toronto-Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. In view of the fact that the initial 60-day moratorium on proposed rent increases for senior citizens' accommodation operated by Metro Toronto Housing Company will expire tomorrow, will the minister advise the House what steps have been taken to extend this moratorium to March, 1974, as he originally requested. Also, can he assure the House that the planned increases will not be proceeded with?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, in so far as CMHC housing is concerned, of course the House is aware that we have imposed a freeze on that. With regard to this particular housing, I have had an answer given to me by my advisers with which I am not entirely satisfied and I will be wiring the officials either this evening or tomorrow morning to determine what the position will be.

Mr. Grier: In view of the fact the minister advised the House on March 15 that officials of CMHC would be entering into discussions with Metro Toronto Housing Company in order to work out the details of the moratori-

Oral Questions

um, can he advise the House whether these discussions actually took place?

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, I believe there have been discussions but I am not entirely satisfied with the outcome in order to ensure the protection of senior citizens in the buildings, and I want to change what has been presently suggested.

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[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KILLING OF TWO CANADIAN GIRLS AT VICTORIA FALLS—REQUEST FOR REPORT BY RHODESIA ON INCIDENT

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

The hon. minister tabled in the House a copy of a personal letter from the foreign minister of Zambia concerning the killing of two Canadian girls about a month ago in Zambia.

On page 2 of the letter the following can be read:

Responsibility for the death of these persons must definitely be laid at the door of the rebel government of Salisbury . . .

And further on, it is stated:

The news also deeply shocked us in Zambia.

Therefore, here is my question:

Following this entirely irresponsible and childish statement of the Zambian government, does the hon. minister intend to call upon the government of Rhodesia, accused in the circumstances, to let us have its version of the facts, since the country guilty of the murder is making a cowardly accusation against a country which was never involved in—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member's question, as stated, is entirely out of order. The hon. member is not asking a question but making a statement and I believe that the question should not be accepted. On the other hand, since the hon. member has formulated statements in his question, I believe the Secretary of State for External Affairs should have an opportunity to reply.

[English]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member has said, the foreign minister of Zambia lays responsibility upon the Rhodesian authorities for the death of the two girls. We are pursuing our inquiries with the Zambian government to try to ascertain the facts.

[Translation]

Mr. Rondeau: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Since Rhodesia has been accused by the Zambian government, is it also the intention of the Secretary of State for External Affairs to ask the Rhodesian government to present its account of the events in order to know both sides of the picture?