

that the Prime Minister and Justice minister have shown so little interest in getting Banks back". Will the minister say—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest with respect to the hon. member that the previous question was not accepted, but I understand the hon. member for Calgary North has a supplementary to the original question.

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Thank you for giving me that very careful leave, Sir. I ask the Minister of Justice whether if the administration of the United States are in accord with having Banks extradited, the government would then facilitate the extradition of Mr. Banks.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): I am hard put, Mr. Speaker, to answer hypothetical questions.

Mr. Woolliams: A further supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member has a supplementary. I am sure however he will agree with me the minister is correct in suggesting the question was hypothetical.

Mr. Woolliams: I will not take up any more time. I realize it embarrasses the government.

[Translation]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

INQUIRY AS TO BILINGUALISM BONUS

Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Secretary of State a question.

Bilingual secretaries of members of parliament have been making representations to the government for a while in order to get the 7 per cent bonus they are entitled to under the law and I would like to know when they will receive it.

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): To my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, no such representations were made to my department.

Mr. Asselin: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is for the Prime Minister.

Could he tell us whether in the wake of the letter he received from the representatives of the bilingual secretaries, the matter has been referred to a branch, a department, the Secretary of State or otherwise, and could he also indicate when the bilingual secretaries can expect a reply in connection with that 7 per cent bonus to which they are entitled?

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Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Trudeau: I will have to check whether such a letter was received by my office, Mr. Speaker, and pursue the matter further if need be.

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question either to the Secretary of State or to the Prime Minister in connection with that same problem, but more particularly inasmuch as the protective staff of the House of Commons is concerned.

For a long time that staff has been promised the 7 per cent bonus for bilingualism, and I would like to know if that bonus will be granted to them soon.

Mr. Asselin: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Secretary of State. It arises from the one which has just been asked.

Does the payment of that bonus to the bilingual secretaries come under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of State Department or under that of another department?

Mr. Pelletier: Mr. Speaker, it does not come under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of State Department.

Mr. Fortin: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Lotbinière has raised a point of order.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, in my view the question is of primary importance and, this time, I shall direct it to the Prime Minister.

Has any action been taken with regard to the claim made by members of the protective staff for the 7 per cent bonus for bilingualism?

Mr. Speaker: Even if the question is important, the hon. member cannot, on a point of order, repeat a question that has already been asked.

[Later:]

Mr. Asselin: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question. Will the Prime Minister, after having inquired about the 7 per cent bonus which was supposed to be granted to bilingual secretaries, be in a position before long to make a statement in the house, so that we may know whether it has been allowed?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, as concerns the secretaries of