

entire Canadian auto parts manufacturing industry and all its workers can take advantage of it?

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Would you repeat the question?

Hon. Jack H. Horner (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, we recently signed an agreement with Volkswagen which allows Volkswagen to claim remission on duties paid for parts manufactured in Canada for their plants in Germany and in the United States. We hope to proceed with a similar agreement with manufacturers of automobiles which are not on the North American continent, in the hope that we will enhance parts production in Canada for some of the cars purchased and used in Canada.

[*Editor's Note: See page 5975 for correction by Mr. Horner.*]

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PENITENTIARIES

ESCAPE OF CONVICTED MURDERER

Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham): Mr. Speaker, if we could get back to the question of physical recreation for a moment, my question is for the Solicitor General and it relates to the escape from federal custody of convicted murderer Albert Marinello, who managed to beat his sentence on Monday night while Montreal's Expos were beating the Chicago Cubs at the Olympic Stadium. This gentleman escaped from custody while at the ball game with one guard and four other prisoners. In the belief that the Solicitor General does not want the prisoners under his care to adopt as their theme, "Take me out to the ball game"—

● (1452)

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lawrence: —especially the punch line, which goes, "I won't care if I ever get back"—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lawrence: —can the Solicitor General tell us how this convicted murderer, whom the Quebec police force describe as being dangerous, was permitted to be in a type of situation from which he could so easily escape?

Hon. J.-J. Blais (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, all the prisoners were cheering for the Expos at the time. With reference to Mr. Marinello, he was coming up for parole next week and the application was to be heard at that time. Therefore, as is usual in order to prepare inmates who may be released on parole, there was a temporary absence permitted under custody. In order to permit him to reintegrate into society, he was taken to this ball game. Unfortunately, the events the hon. member has described are relatively accurate: he did absent himself, Mr. Speaker.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Oral Questions

Mr. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the minister is aware that this convicted murderer escaped on three previous occasions, the last time being as recently as last year and, more notably, on Mother's Day of 1974 when he took the occasion to convert a pass home into a home run.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lawrence: I wonder if there is any sports program in federal institutions which would teach the inmates, for instance, that rather than three strikes and you are out the rule appears to be three outs and then you take a walk.

Mr. Blais: Mr. Speaker, the House appreciates the fact that the hon. member for Northumberland-Durham has hired a new joke writer. Indeed, I am glad he has taken a rather positive attitude in terms of this particular event. It explains the difficulty we have in terms of attempting to reintegrate convicts within society. If the hon. member is not aware, he can be made aware very easily with a briefing from my officials within the National Parole Board or, indeed, the Canadian Correctional Services. There is a judgment which has to be made relating to people who are up for parole. In this instance, this judgment was made. Mr. Marinello progressed from a maximum security to a medium security, and finally to a minimum security institution.

Mr. Gillies: To escape.

Mr. Blais: This was based on the judgment that he was not a dangerous inmate.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Blais: I point to the fact that during those other three absences to which the hon. member referred, there was no indication of any misbehaviour on the part of Mr. Marinello. Undoubtedly, the application which was to be heard next week is going to be negatively affected by Mr. Marinello's absence.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): You hope.

Mr. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, there was no negative activity except that he failed to come back on all occasions. Will the Solicitor General confirm the understatement of the year as being National Parole Board policy when prisoner warden Real Benoit, after being contacted by the press on this matter, said:

I think he had a good chance to get out on parole before he escaped. Now, I don't know what will happen. His escape certainly won't help his chances of getting parole.

Is that a statement of National Parole Board policy?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Battle River.