

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister may be very glib—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Prime Minister has said that he will answer any questions asked in the House but the questions, of course, must be acceptable from a procedural standpoint.

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, may I put another question to the Prime Minister. I realize, Mr. Speaker, that the Prime Minister likes to answer questions here, but would he be prepared to answer a serious question and a series of questions in the committee that will be set up as a result of his own resolution?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I see no better forum for answering questions than the House of Commons.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Woolliams: Why did you people change the rules, then?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I believe the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate has a supplementary to a previous question.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker,—

Mr. Paproski: May I ask a question?

Mr. Lundrigan: All right—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I thank the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate for his co-operation and his suggestion that another hon. member should have the floor although he himself has been recognized. The hon. member for Regina East.

Mr. Burton: Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Parliamentary Secretary—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Gander-Twillingate rises on a question of privilege.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary was in reference to an earlier question, and I think the urgency of this question—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is not a question of privilege. The hon. member will be recognized in a moment. The Chair also intends to recognize the hon. member for Edmonton West later. As hon. members know, there must be an attempt by the Chair to give an opportunity to representatives of different parties to ask their questions from time to time. That is why, at this point, I feel I ought to recognize the hon. member for Regina East.

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PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS**SASKATCHEWAN ELECTION—LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVANTS TO BE CANDIDATES**

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Secretary of State I wish to direct my

[Mr. Speaker.]

question to his parliamentary secretary. Will the parliamentary secretary, on behalf of the Secretary of State, assure the House that no impediments are placed in the way of federal public servants who wish to obtain leave of absence from their posts in order to run as candidates in the Saskatchewan election?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps it is time to return to the question to be asked by the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate. I think we should try to dispose of the original question first, and then I will recognize supplementaries on the second question proposed by the hon. member for Edmonton Centre and others.

Mr. Burton: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, may I rephrase my question?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. At this time I must seek the hon. member's co-operation. I have recognized the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate.

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PUBLIC SERVICE**FIREMEN'S STRIKE, EDMONTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON SITUATION**

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, to return the urgency of a previous question, may I put a quick supplementary to one of the eight ministers present. Perhaps I could direct it to the Acting President of the Treasury Board. Can we have an undertaking that a statement will be made tomorrow concerning the impending walkout of firefighters throughout Canada, in sympathy with the firefighters at Edmonton international airport, in view of the fact several airlines have indicated their lack of desire to land at international airports where there is not proper firefighting control and patrol? This is an urgent matter which could tie up the whole nation. I wonder if there could be that kind of undertaking?

Mr. Alastair Gillespie (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I will be pleased to take that question as notice and refer it to the President of the Treasury Board.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**DISCUSSION BY PRIME MINISTER WITH SOVIET AUTHORITIES CONCERNING RELEASE OF VALENTYN MOROZ**

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Prime Minister. Would the Prime Minister please advise the House what discussion took place as to the release of a great Ukrainian, Valentyn Moroz, during his brief visit with Mr. Brezhnev and Mr. Kosygin?