

Oral Questions

money from the department. We all know the work cannot be done without funding.

When can we expect that the department will move beyond issuing false assurances that it is doing something? When will some money be forthcoming to provide decent water facilities in Paint Hills and other Cree communities?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Madam Speaker, I met last week with my colleague, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, at the same time I was meeting with some of my senior officials from the Quebec region to assess the cost of doing something permanent, as well as something immediate in terms of a temporary solution to the matter this year. We are going to get on with what can be considered a quick job this year; it is not adequate in terms of a more permanent water and sewage system at Paint Hills. We are budgeting it for next year and will do as much of the preparation work as we can this year.

We have pretty well identified the cost and we are going to try and find the money this year. If the Cree are spending some of their own money, and my assistant deputy minister was talking to them all last week, then we can look at that from the point of view of possibly reimbursing them at a later stage. I can assure the hon. member we are doing everything possible to try to correct this situation as fast as we can.

● (1440)

REFERRAL OF REPORT TO PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands): Madam Speaker, the summer season is now here when the health needs of the people are most real. I understand the report the minister requested, to review the spirit and intent of the James Bay agreement, is now finished. Could the minister inform the House as to the major contents of the report? Will he request a special reference to the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development so that the committee can study the report in some detail?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Madam Speaker, in view of the fact the report is under preparation and we have all co-operated to obtain it, I do not think it should be or will be kept secret in any way. The fact of the matter is that it is not yet completed; it is almost completed. When it is completed we will all have a chance to review it, possibly at the standing committee where most of these discussions regarding the matter have taken place.

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IMMIGRATION

FUNDING FOR VOLUNTEER AGENCIES

Mr. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Madam Speaker, over the past six months or so representations were made by many volunteer agencies in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Van-

couver for increased funds to help them provide services to immigrants. Will the Minister of Employment and Immigration inform the House whether he intends to fight for an increase in the allocation to immigrant settlement and adaptation programs?

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Madam Speaker, as hon. members of the House may know, when the decision was taken to undertake a major refugee program for the Vietnamese, the government authorized an additional sum of money to deal with the problems of immigration adaptation. When the program came to an end last year, the money for immigration settlement reverted to its normal level. Because of the representations mentioned by the hon. member, and the assessments of our officials, it was clear there was still an ongoing need for continued work in the area. As a result, the government authorized an additional \$4.3 million to deal with immigration problems, an additional \$927,000 million for the ISAP program, and \$3.37 million to deal directly with the needs of refugees to supply them with necessities such as housing and other luxuries—

An hon. Member: Luxuries?

Mr. Axworthy:—until such time as they become self-sufficient. I think those representations have now been met.

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TRADE MARKS AND PATENTS

PROTECTION FOR TELIDON

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe): Madam Speaker, could the Minister of Communications confirm a published report indicating that the Department of Communications attempted to receive a trade mark for the name Telidon but failed because it applied too late and, as a consequence, it had to settle for a certification mark?

Hon. Francis Fox (Secretary of State and Minister of Communications): No, Madam Speaker, I cannot confirm it. My understanding is that the advice we received from the Department of Justice, and from an outside expert in this area who was retained by that department, was that the proper manner in which to proceed was the one indicated by the hon. member, that is, through a certification mark.

STATUS OF SOFTWARE

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe): Madam Speaker, is the minister denying the published report indicating that the government tried to obtain a trade mark in the United States and failed? In addition to not having very much security over the use of the name Telidon, could the minister confirm that only a portion of the hardware for Telidon can be protected and, further, that there is no protection for the software which could be copied and possibly enhanced by others who would intend to introduce a similar system?