

THE CENSUS

DECLARATION OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the fact that the declaration contained in the census questionnaire that the head of the household is the husband rather than the wife is inaccurate, misleading and undemocratic—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mrs. MacInnis:—to the point of insulting large numbers of people who must complete the form, would the minister say whether such an antediluvian description was made with his approval?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the Bureau of Statistics has to go by appearances most of the time, and this is one such occasion. May I, however, invite members of the House who have any problems respecting the census to come to room 112-N this afternoon at 1.30 where their questions will be answered by officials of the Bureau of Statistics.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): In connection with the meeting which is to take place this afternoon—and for which an invitation has been warmly given by the minister—does it mean that changes will be made and that, for instance, religion will be included in the short form from which it has now been omitted?

Mr. Pepin: No, Mr. Speaker, but some of the mistakes made by the right hon. member for Prince Albert will be corrected at that time.

Mr. Diefenbaker: On a question of privilege, the minister says he is going to correct some mistakes that I made. Let me point out that there is no reference to the fourth largest ethnic group in Canada, the Ukrainian, in the short form, despite the falsification in which he participated in my absence last Friday.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the right hon. member that what he has raised is not a question of privilege but a matter of debate.

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PENITENTIARIES

PLACING OF CERTAIN INMATES IN COLLINS BAY DISSOCIATION CELLS

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): I should like to direct a question to the Solicitor General. As his statement of May 21 about inmates being transferred at their own request from Millhaven to dissociation cells in Collins Bay and Kingston penitentiaries has resulted, to say the least, in misunderstanding and in a cloud of suspicion being placed over the heads of these people, would the hon. gentleman care to qualify that observation or apologize for the distortion which has taken place, if that is what did take place, in the statement he made?

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I have never said that the prisoners had chosen to be transferred from Millhaven to another place. I said that, as a result of the events in Kingston, we were short of accommodation, that the prisoners had chosen to destroy the buildings in Kingston. That is what I said.

While the prisoners were in Millhaven, the commissioner was advised that trouble was brewing; as a precautionary measure, we chose to transfer some of the Millhaven prisoners to other institutions.

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[English]

FISHERIES

ASSISTANCE TO MANITOBA FISHERMEN BECAUSE OF POLLUTION OF CERTAIN LAKES

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry. Can he tell the House whether the government has considered supporting the creation of a special compensation program and an early retirement program for some 207 fishermen who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own because of mercury pollution of Lake Winnipeg and surrounding lakes in Manitoba?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries and Forestry): A program has been under discussion with the government of Manitoba and the details will be announced shortly.

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EDUCATION

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION COURSES

Mr. Mac T. McCutcheon (Lambton-Kent): May I direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister. It is further to a question I asked him last week, which he may recall, respecting the decline in enrolment in business administration courses at our universities. Will the government now give consideration to the recommendation of the Economic Council that joint programs in this area be developed with industry?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker. In general, the government is sympathetic to the need for more graduates in business in this country and we have been assisting indirectly in a number of ways, as well as directly, of course, by paying 50 per cent of the operating costs of all higher education. So I can give a positive answer to that question.

Mr. McCutcheon: Will the government consult with the provinces on this matter as well as on the suggestion by the Economic Council that business administration programs, for instance, should be extended to such fields as public health, recreation and consumer protection?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's supplementary is in the form of a proposition or suggestion to the government and he has to assume it will be considered.