

Inquiries of the Ministry

statement made by the senator, see exactly what he was driving at and let members of the House know the source of that statement?

Mr. Sharp: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will be prepared to do so. It may be something the senator would like to see happen.

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YOUTH**OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS BY MEMBERS**

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State. Has any action been taken as a result of the letters that were forwarded to him prior to April 13 with regard to the Opportunities for Youth program or was this simply an exercise in futility and the recommendations of hon. members were not considered at all?

Mr. James Hugh Faulkner (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, I did not get the full import of the question. Maybe I could consult with the hon. member on it afterward.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Korchinski: May I repeat the question, Mr. Speaker. Was any action taken as a result of the recommendations of members of parliament which were forwarded to the parliamentary secretary's office prior to April 13 on the Opportunities for Youth program or was this simply an exercise in futility and these recommendations were completely disregarded?

Mr. Faulkner: Mr. Speaker, it was not an exercise in futility.

Mr. Korchinski: Will we be receiving replies as a result of these recommendations?

Mr. Faulkner: Mr. Speaker, where a member of parliament is anxious to have an explanation as to why a project was accepted or rejected, we will have the facilities to provide that explanation.

Mr. Korchinski: May I ask the parliamentary secretary from what source we can get this information because I have tried the special liaison office and also his office in order to get some kind of reply. To date I have not received a reply and I do not know who is on the selection committee.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We have just about reached the end of the question period. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville.

[Mr. Lewis.]

PENSIONS**POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF OLD AGE SECURITY ACT AND CANADA PENSION PLAN TO PERMIT RETIREMENT AT AGE 60**

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of increasing concern and the representations by many Canadians in relation to early retirement, I should like to ask the minister whether he is considering amending the Old Age Security Act and the Canada Pension Plan so that people who so desire may retire at the age of 60?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): We have had under consideration the general principle of encouraging earlier retirement but we have reached no conclusions as to how it should be done or what particular program should be amended.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**WEEKLY STATEMENT**

Mr. Baldwin: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, may I ask the leader of the House to tell us the business for the rest of this week and next week, bearing in mind that there will be consultation with regard to the business for later today or tomorrow, as the Chair has suggested?

Mr. MacEachen: Today we shall continue the debate on the item now before the House. This will be followed by the amendments to the Criminal Code, Bills C-2 and C-6. After that we would take up Bill C-5, the Farm Credit Act and the explosives measure, Bill C-7. The order may be subject to negotiation.

Mr. Baldwin: In light of the announcement made by the Minister of Finance, can the hon. gentleman undertake that the House will be able to hold the usual budget debate prescribed by the rules and that there will be discussion between the parties, bearing in mind that the budget will be brought down on Monday evening, as to the dates when the debate will follow?

Mr. MacEachen: I shall do my utmost to meet the requirements of the rules in that connection.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!