

Inquiries of the Ministry

Exactly what is the situation with regard to getting this strike settled? Can the Acting Prime Minister report to the House at this time?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this is in substance much the same as the question already asked by the hon. member for Sainte-Marie. I will try to get an answer before the question period is over.

Mr. Murta: Can the Acting Prime Minister inform the House whether the government is contemplating setting up a commission of inquiry and will this commission have representatives of western agricultural interests on it?

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• (1130)

INDIAN AFFAIRS**COMPLAINT AGAINST STATEMENT BY JUDGE THAT USE OF ALCOHOL CAUSE OF PROBLEMS**

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Justice a question of which I have given notice. Has the hon. gentleman received a letter from the British Columbia Association of Non-Status Indians complaining about the conduct, in terms of language, of a British Columbia Supreme Court Justice, Mr. Justice Gould, in the course of a judgment in which he said the problems of Indians arose from alcohol? Is the minister in receipt of this letter calling for an inquiry and the dismissal of the judge in question, and can he advise the House what action he intends to take?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): I have not yet looked at the letter or considered the nature of the complaint. I will do so, of course, and decide at that time whether any action is warranted.

Mr. Alexander: I realize this is a tricky issue, but in view of repeated utterances of such a nature which are certainly affecting the well-being of our native peoples, would the minister take it upon himself to issue a directive or statement for the benefit of the judiciary making it clear that this type of thing cannot be tolerated?

Mr. Speaker: That, of course, is a suggestion or a representation. It is not a question seeking information.

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SPORTS**REQUEST FOR GRANT TO HALL OF FAME IN TORONTO**

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State. In his absence I will direct it to the Acting Secretary of State. In view of the fact that large amounts of money are allotted annually on behalf of culture and art, is the hon. gentleman aware of the deplorable fact that the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame in Toronto is reported to be entirely without financial support or assistance to allow for proper maintenance and improvement of facilities? Will the Acting Secretary of State look into this situation and make every effort to

[Mr. Murta.]

provide a moderate source of financial assistance for this worthy project?

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will allow someone to reply on behalf of the government but I would think the second part of the question is not really a question but rather a representation. Perhaps the parliamentary secretary might reply to that part of the question which is in order.

Mr. Hugh Faulkner (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I would be prepared to look into it to see, first of all, whether we have a responsibility in this area.

An hon. Member: Is that culture?

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IMMIGRATION**INTENTION RESPECTING GRANTING OF PERMISSION TO KARLETON ARMSTRONG TO REMAIN IN CANADA AS POLITICAL REFUGEE**

Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Acting Prime Minister. Does the government intend to allow Karleton Armstrong to stay in Canada as a political refugee?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, questions of this kind come before the courts, and I am not sure that it would be appropriate for me to comment on a case which is in a sense sub judice.

Mr. Ryan: Has this question been considered at cabinet level?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member knows that a question such as that is entirely out of order.

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[Translation]

INDUSTRY**QUEBEC—POLICY RESPECTING PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY—DISCUSSION BETWEEN FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL MINISTERS**

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Has he had a chance to meet his Quebec counterpart to iron out certain difficulties particularly with regard to the petrochemical industry?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the Quebec Minister of Industry and Commerce recently stated, according to the newspaper *Le Devoir*, that his relations with his federal counterpart were extremely harmonious; I would say the same. We meet regularly, and shall meet again in the near future.