Mr. Hees: With Bill Harris.

An hon. Member: How are all the boys?

Mr. Trudeau: The responsible minister asked as early as last February for a thorough inquiry into this matter.

Mr. Baldwin: Five months!

Mr. Trudeau: He has reported progress to the House. The position of the government is that if, following this inquiry, there is any reason for there to be a public inquiry, we will hold one. However, for the time being there is nothing of a nature which would incline me to believe we should order a public inquiry at this time.

Mr. Hellyer: One further supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

Some hon. Members: Oh!

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for a third supplementary, after which I will recognize the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain.

Mr. Hellyer: In view of the fact that the inquiry requested by the minister of state might possibly contain some of the same elements as alleged in John Dean's investigation of the Watergate affair—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hellyer: —will the Prime Minister not order a public inquiry now so as to get at the facts, and enable witnesses to be called and provide the necessary answers? I ask that a public judicial inquiry be undertaken.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member is asking the same question for the second time, or making an argument in favour of a question he has already asked. The hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain.

• (1440)

INDIAN AFFAIRS

MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER ON RESERVATIONS—WILLINGNESS OF ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE TO TRAIN INDIANS AS POLICEMEN—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In view of the serious situation in some of the Indian reservations with regard to law and order, and in view of the willingness of the RCMP to train recruits on the Indian reserves to act as policemen on those reserves, and in view of the fact that 30 recruits in Saskatchewan are waiting to be trained, has the government made any decision with regard to the training program this fall?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, we have not yet completed negotiations concerning the cost sharing between the provincial and federal governments and we

Oral Questions

expect an answer very shortly so that the program might take shape as of next fall.

[English]

MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER ON RESERVATIONS— CONSULTATION WITH PROVINCES

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, if I may follow up with one more question for information, did I understand the minister correctly to say that he is asking the provincial government to share in the cost of policing something that is surely a federal responsibility, law and order on Indian reservations?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, this is the course that negotiations have taken so far and this is the position that the provincial government has taken.

[English]

YOUTH

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—POSSIBLE CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN APPROVAL OF PROJECT "SERVING THE POLISH COMMUNITY IN PARKDALE"

Mr. Terry Grier (Toronto-Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Prime Minister, in view of the continued absence of the Minister of State for multiculturalism. I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether he has had discussions with the Minister of State for multiculturalism in connection with the questions I raised in the House yesterday, and in connection with the matters in the press today, and whether he is assured that there is no conflict of interest in connection with that matter?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I have neither seen nor spoken to the minister since the question was raised, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Grier: Mr. Speaker, in view of that fact may I ask the Prime Minister whether he would undertake to speak to the minister and request the minister to make a statement in the House. I should also like to ask the Prime Minister whether, in view of the situation he feels there might be some additional urgency in bringing down the proposed guidelines on conflict of interest?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I cannot see any conflict of interest in the question which was asked by the hon. member yesterday. I certainly will refer the question to the acting minister, and he might be prepared to handle these questions today or later.

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I might reply to the question. As I indicated yesterday to the hon. member the alleged conflict of interest is totally without substance. As he knows, as other members of the House know, and as the paper which princed the story knows, the girl in question was not part of the project when it was funded.