EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PROTECTION OF CANADIANS ON HIJACKED FRENCH AIRCRAFT—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Has Canada taken any steps to contact big Idi Amin to see what he is doing about protecting the Canadians on the hijacked French airliner, or is the Prime Minister planning to make a statement today on this matter?

(1450)

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the answer is no to the second question. As to the first, I would have to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs to report.

POST OFFICE

APPLICATION TO OLYMPIC STAMPS OF PROVISION TO WITHDRAW TWELVE MONTHS AFTER ISSUE

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Postmaster General. Can the Postmaster General inform the House if the agreement with Canadian philatelists providing for withdrawal of new stamp issues 12 months following the original issuance applies to Olympic stamps?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, yes. The hon. gentleman has raised an important question. It is customary in Canada, after 12 months, to withdraw these types of commemorative stamps from circulation. After that they can be obtained through dealers and various private outlets.

Mr. Dinsdale: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the Postmaster General's remarks, would he investigate why the Olympic statue stamp, which was originally issued on March 14, 1975, is still available at post office philatelic outlets?

Mr. Mackasey: Mr. Speaker, I should have been more explicit. I meant, one year from the event. Olympic stamps, as we know, are designated by law for a specific purpose. The net revenue derived from those particular stamps is part of the financing of the Olympics themselves. That is one of our reasons for still selling them. But one year after the termination of the Olympic Games all Olympic stamps will be obtainable only through private outlets.

IMMIGRATION

MEDICAL CHECKS ON VISITORS FROM THE TROPICS

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the galloping increase in the incidence of tropical diseases even among native born Canadians, proving that present controls are not controlling, may I ask what percentage of the 40 million people who visit Canada are

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from tropical countries and what small percentage of those remain for longer than the normal holiday? Also, may I ask if Canadians who have served their country for any length of time in tropical countries are checked medically when they return to Canada?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I will try to obtain for the hon. member the statistical information he has requested. I think he is aware of recent measures involving the medical examination of visitors to more carefully monitor the possibility of such diseases being brought into the country. As for the final part of his question to do with the return of Canadians, that is not in my jurisdiction.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

STRIKE OF MINERS IN SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Howard Johnston (Okanagan-Kootenay): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour. Has the minister been in touch with his provincial counterpart with regard to the strike by miners which has continued for six weeks in the southeast Kootenay area of British Columbia contrary to the ruling of the Anti-Inflation Board?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, during the latter part of last week I met with the minister of labour for British Columbia. We reviewed all strike situations which were then troublesome in the province from the point of view as to how the federal department could co-operate and be of assistance to the provincial department in resolving these outstanding disputes.

SUGGESTED REVIEW OF APPEAL PROCEDURES AGAINST RULINGS OF ANTI-INFLATION BOARD

Mr. Howard Johnston (Okanagan-Kootenay): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Because of the number of similar strikes concentrated in the mining industry, is the minister taking steps directly to review with representatives of the industry, both management and labour, appeal procedures provided against rulings of the Anti-Inflation Board, or is he awaiting the decision of the Supreme Court on the constitutionality of the board itself?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, since many of the labour disputes in question including questions of labour relations and resolution of labour disputes fall within provincial jurisdiction, we are co-operating with the province to ascertain both from unions and companies the best way to work out practices—I am speaking in terms of resolutions—so that we can be constructive with regard to resolution of disputes. We are doing that in an active manner at present.