

*Oral Questions*

these valuable statistics. Given the Minister's limited advertising budget, what has he done to create an adequate public awareness which is so crucial to the success of the national census taking?

**Hon. Stewart McInnes (Minister of Supply and Services):** Mr. Speaker, I must clarify that we do not have a limited budget; we have no advertising budget. This was a restraint that we accepted in undertaking the census this year. However, I am absolutely confident that the importance of the census has been brought to the attention of all Canadians by business, by the media, and by Members of Parliament. May I take this opportunity to express—

**Some Hon. Members:** No. Sit down.

**Mr. Rossi:** Statements by Ministers.

**Mr. McInnes:**—my appreciation to all groups—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The Hon. Member for Nickel Belt.

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## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

## EMPLOYMENT OF WASHINGTON LOBBYIST

**Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. It concerns the Michael Deaver dealings in Washington. I realize that this started before the Prime Minister began directing a new moral standard day by day here in Ottawa. However, will he assure the House that the Government will co-operate fully with the special prosecutor who is to be appointed to get at the facts in this case?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I think that has already been said. I assume the appointment of a special prosecutor will ensure that the matter will be treated in a non-partisan manner.

## REQUEST THAT EMBASSY OFFICIALS PROVIDE EVIDENCE

**Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt):** Mr. Speaker, I take it from the Prime Minister's answer that he will co-operate with the special prosecutor. Will he give the assurance that that co-operation will include the appearance before that special prosecutor of any official in Canada's Embassy in Washington who may have evidence to give?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, that is a hypothetical question, in much the same way it is hypothetical to ask whether the Member for Winnipeg—Fort Garry will want to appear, given his interest in the case down there.

## INSURANCE

## COMPANY PRACTICES IN MONTREAL—REQUEST THAT LEGISLATION BE INTRODUCED

**Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard—Anjou):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Finance. The CTV program *As It Is* in Montreal showed very clearly how the insurance business allows deals among unregulated management insurance companies, affiliated insurance companies, and general insurance companies. Such practice was described as a major cause of bankruptcy in the insurance industry. When will the Minister put a stop to these sweetheart deals among insurance companies and introduce the legislation which she promised in January, 1986?

**Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)):** Mr. Speaker, I am sympathetic to the Hon. Member's question. He knows that I also regard this as an important issue. Our legislation is in the final stages of preparation and I should have it in the House before the end of June.

[Translation]

## REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT INTRODUCE FIRE INSURANCE LEGISLATION BEFORE END OF JUNE

**Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard—Anjou):** Mr. Speaker, how many more people like Mr. Bernard Lévesque from the town of Gaspé will have to lose their homes due to fire and then find out that their insurance company has gone bankrupt, before you intervene? That is what the situation has been like since January. Could you give the House the assurance that the legislation will be in the House by the end of June?

[English]

**Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)):** Mr. Speaker, I would appreciate it very much if the Hon. Member would bring the specifics of this case to me. I would be very happy to look into what happened. I think it might have been something to do with his broker and I would be happy to see if there is anything we can do about it.

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## AIR CANADA

## TREATMENT OF FLIGHT ATTENDANT

**Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina West):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister *sotto voce*. It involves the situation of an Air Canada flight attendant being suspended and facing dismissal after 13 years of service, after a Tory delegate to the Conservative Convention wrote a "Dear Don" letter to the Minister of Transport. Will the Prime Minister tell us why Mr. Ian Hamilton of his office, when notified of this injustice last week, chose to tell the flight attendant that no action would be taken to defend this citizen's job or right to freedom of speech?