Inquiries of the Ministry

handicapped and, if so, whether he intends to grant a pension to every unilingual Canadian?

[English]

CRIMINAL CODE

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT RESPECTING REASONS FOR TERMS OF SENTENCES

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Justice, and I do not think there will be any question about his jurisdiction over this matter. May I preface it by saying that the report of the Canadian Committee on Corrections recommended that, when sentences are imposed by a court, the magistrate, judge or justice should specify the reasons for the term of the sentence. In view of the fact that the Alberta appellate division has reduced from five to two years the sentences of the young people involved in marijuana and hashish offences, will the minister now advise whether he is prepared to bring in reform legislation setting out that recommendation in Criminal Code?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): We are actively considering the recommendations of the Ouimet Commission, and I am certainly considering this one.

Mr. Woolliams: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In light of the appellate division's review and reduction of the sentences of these young men and women, will the Minister of Justice ensure that all the special federal Crown prosecutors—and I emphasize the word "federal"—involved in the administration of the Narcotics Act and the Food and Drugs Act are made aware of this decision?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): I think that all our federal Crown prosecutors keep themselves up to date on the law, but I will certainly draw this to their attention.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

COMMITMENT TO UN TO EXPAND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs, and since I read that the topic may become taboo I would like to refer it to the Parliamentary Secretary. Can he advise us whether the government has abandoned the commitment given by the minister's predecessor to the General Assembly of

the United Nations in 1967 that Canada will expand its contribution to international development programs so as to reach the target of one per cent of our gross national product by 1970-71?

[Translation]

Mr. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the government intends to determine the extent of its participation in the assistance program to underdeveloped countries, in the light of the Pearson report.

[English]

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

ACCIDENT CAUSED BY SPILLING OF SULPHURIC ACID FROM TOY CAR

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the fact that a Montreal child has barely escaped serious or fatal burns from sulphuric acid spilling from a toy car, and in view of the fact that this toy was apparently approved by the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, will the minister investigate this matter without delay?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have not yet had a report on the tragic incident which the hon. member mentions but I will look into it immediately. However, there is one point I would like to clear up. If the question refers to the car that I have in mind, at no time has it received any sort of approval from my department. We have no machinery for giving such approval.

Mrs. MacInnis: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister aware then of a press report containing a statement from the Canadian Toy Testing Council that they examined the car in the company of an official of the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs who saw no hazard in it?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Unless the minister is rising on a point of order, may I say that I think the question as asked is not in order.

Mr. Basford: I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, to point out, so as to put the record straight, that while an official of my department had a look at the car, there is