

*Oral Questions*

**Mr. Marchand (Langelier):** I am happy that the right hon. member for Prince Albert has confirmed what I am saying. I would like to see this man to ask him exactly what he meant when he made this statement.

PROPOSED COMMITTEE STUDY PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF  
PERMITS TO DRILL IN BEAUFORT SEA

**Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster):** The Beaufort Sea permits for drilling are still being delayed. I understand that the delay will be short. In view of the fact the preliminary studies on the Beaufort Sea indicate a potential for environmental disaster in the event of a blowout, will the minister refer that question to the committee on the environment or the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development so that some study can be done by parliamentarians in consultation with environmentalists prior to the permit being issued? Why is there no activity in the House of Commons with regard to an inquiry prior to the issuance of the drilling permits?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of the Environment):** Mr. Speaker, there has been a very long inquiry. One condition when the temporary permit was issued was that there be an inquiry on the environmental aspect of the problem. We received the report. Everything is now before cabinet. There has been a short discussion on this, even before the standing committee. The permit, of course, will not be issued before the cabinet decision. I cannot reveal that because the decision has not yet been made.

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[Translation]

OLYMPIC GAMES

INQUIRY WHETHER FEDERAL GOVERNMENT INVITED THE  
QUEEN TO OPEN GAMES

**Mr. René Matte (Champlain):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

In a telegram the private secretary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is said to have sent to a member of the Quebec National Assembly, it would be clearly indicated that, in compliance with the express wish of the Canadian authorities, Her Majesty has accepted to inaugurate the Olympic Games. As the Prime Minister stated categorically before 1,500 delegates of his party that COJO alone was responsible for that invitation, would he be willing, in order to protect his integrity, to state quite clearly what the truth of the matter is?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I have no knowledge of the telegram mentioned by the hon. member, but I thank him for the question as it will give me the opportunity of throwing a little light on the facts.

May I point out to the hon. member that he is slightly in error when he says that I claimed that COJO alone was responsible for the invitation. What I told the delegates, and willingly repeat in this House, is that—and to my mind it is important that this be known—under international rules COJO in fact invited the Queen of Canada to inaugurate the games. It did so through normal channels,

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

that is by asking the federal government to convey the invitation, inasmuch as it is standard practice, whenever a province, a regiment or any other Canadian groups wants to invite a member of the royal family, for the federal government to transmit the invitation.

What I do want to stress is that the invitation came from COJO according to international rules; I transmitted it after having discussed the matter with the Quebec premier, who told me he had spoken to Mayor Drapeau about it. Only after those consultations did Premier Bourassa and myself agree to encourage COJO to go ahead, and I did convey the invitation.

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[English]

INDUSTRY

TEXTILES—REQUEST FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS

**Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance who has joint responsibility with the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce on the tariff role with regard to the textile industry in Canada. Yesterday the Senate committee studying the textile industry in Canada tabled its first report. Among other things, it criticizes the federal government for its unwillingness to implement the textile policy in accordance with the aims of that policy and, in fact, to promote almost an open door policy. My question to the Minister of Finance is the following: Will the government act immediately on the preliminary recommendations of the committee in order to alleviate the chaotic conditions affecting Canada's textile industry and, more particularly, to assure some reasonable percentage of the Canadian market to the domestic industry and labour force? Also, and this is very important, will the government immediately establish a time limit for the relevant minister to act on the recommendations of the Textile and Clothing Board?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, my colleague and I do have this question under consideration. We hope to be able to make a very early statement on it.

**Mr. Grafftey:** In view of the mass lay-offs in the textile industry affecting breadwinners who have very little mobility, can the minister assure the House that we will see immediate action to implement these recommendations and bring hope to both labour and industry in this regard?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** As I have said, we intend to make a careful analyses of this and issue an early statement. But if by "immediately" he means now, while I am on my feet, the answer is, no.