

Oral Questions

The special inquiry officer conducting the hearing has decided to continue his detention.

Is it the policy of Canadian justice that any holder of a Canadian visa can be held for lengthy periods of time on the wish of a government bureaucrat, without charges being laid and without a public hearing?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Justice): Any such holding would be pursuant to the Immigration Act and the law relating thereto. As I understand, the subject to whom the hon. member referred has taken habeas corpus proceedings in the courts in British Columbia. Obviously, it is a matter under inquiry and before the courts.

Mr. Clarke: The hearing that the minister refers to will be held tomorrow, but the question is: What is the charge on which Mr. Kennedy is being held?

Mr. Basford: As I understand—the Minister of Manpower and Immigration is not here unfortunately—it is a hearing under the Immigration Act being held pursuant to the Immigration Act.

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PENITENTIARIES**SEARCH FOR PSYCHIATRISTS IN ENGLAND—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE NONE AVAILABLE IN CANADA**

Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. Would he confirm that Dr. Craigan of his department, together with Jim Murphy of the Pacific region and Jim Phelps of the Saskatchewan region, went to England in order to interview psychiatrists, I presume to work in the penitentiary service. I wonder if the minister would confirm that he has worked together with the Department of Manpower to make sure there are no professional people in Canada who have been overlooked for this opportunity. It does seem strange that these officials went to England during the week of the Jubilee celebrations. Does the minister not think that that might not have been the most conducive time to conduct interviews?

Hon. Francis Fox (Solicitor General): I will be pleased to investigate the matter on behalf of the hon. member. I should point out, however, that traditionally there has been some difficulty in obtaining in this country that kind of high level psychiatric services.

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POST OFFICE**PROPOSAL TO REFER MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS TO COMMITTEE**

Mr. Bruce Halliday (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Postmaster General. It relates to the topic of parliamentary committees, on which the government has been very

[Mr. Clarke.]

sensitive and wary in the last 24 hours. In light of the sympathy expressed by the Postmaster General last Thursday, as reported on page 7223 of *Hansard*, concerning the motion by my colleague, the hon. member for Brandon-Souris, under Standing Order 43 which urged the Postmaster General to name a parliamentary committee, would the minister now indicate to us if he favours the establishment of a parliamentary committee to investigate and report on all aspects of our postal system?

● (1500)

Hon. J.-J. Blais (Postmaster General): It is too early to say, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Halliday: In view of that answer does the Postmaster General feel that members of parliament, together with appropriate research staff, are incapable of making a valid assessment, and if not, why would he not have what could be potentially a four-party, unanimous report upon which he could base changes in our postal system?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Broadview.

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PUBLIC WORKS**PLACE GUY FAVREAU—SUGGESTION PROJECT BE DISCONTINUED AND MONEY ALLOCATED TO LOW COST HOUSING**

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Public Works. In view of the representations of the Chinese community in Montreal that the plans to construct the \$200 million Place Guy Favreau would destroy Montreal's Chinatown, would the minister now stop the project and spend the \$200 million on low-cost housing in Montreal?

Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, the area to which the hon. member refers has been classified historically by the government of Quebec, and we have undertaken that anything we do there will respect such classification. However, we are looking at possible modifications to the development of Place Guy Favreau.

Mr. Gilbert: In view of the lack of consultation on the project—and that has been emphasized by the Chinese community—would the minister keep the Chinese community and other interested groups informed of any anticipated developments?

Mr. Buchanan: That is something at which I am looking very seriously.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. During the course of the question period in answer to a question by the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands (Miss MacDonald) the government House leader