

*Oral Questions*

before the Minister of Transport that CATCA will not commit itself to accepting the recommendations of the commission of inquiry even if they are unanimous, if they support the use of French as a factor of air safety, will the Minister of Transport advise the House of the measure he intends to take to make sure that we shall not find ourselves at the end of the commission's meetings in the same situation that has prevailed over the last two weeks?

[English]

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. With the greatest respect may I say that question has a largely hypothetical element in it.

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### HEALTH

#### REASON FOR LABELLING ALCOHOLIC PRODUCTS AS DANGEROUS—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF RESEARCH STUDIES

**Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the skepticism with which spokesmen for several distilleries have greeted his department's plans to force beer, wine and liquor companies to label their products as dangerous, and in view of the conspicuous lack of success which a similar warning printed on cigarette packaging material has had in regard to smoking, I wonder if the minister could explain why he thinks such labelling will be useful in the case of alcoholic beverages?

[Translation]

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** I shall refer the hon. member to the statistics which were made public concerning tobacco consumption in Canada over the last few years. He will realize that his statement is, as usual, unfounded.

[English]

**Mr. Yewchuk:** Mr. Speaker, in view of the intention of the minister to expend public funds on this program in an effort to reduce the excessive consumption of alcohol, could the minister say whether the sociological, economic, political and philosophical implications of this program have been thoroughly researched and if so would he table the reports in the House?

[Translation]

**Mr. Lalonde:** In answer to the hon. member's questions, I shall say that even spiritual studies have been made on this subject.

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[English]

### ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

#### GOVERNMENT INTENTIONS WITH REGARD TO PERMITTING SENTENCES TO BE SERVED ON WEEKENDS

**Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. It is with regard to weekend jail sentences and prisoners not showing up. Superintendent J. M. Gillingham of the Head-

[Mr. Joyal.]

ingley Correctional Institute, Manitoba stated that the four-year old federal program is a nightmare. Harold Gyles, Chief Judge of the Manitoba Provincial Judges Court has called on magistrates to stop handing out weekend prison sentences because they are impossible to administer. Has the Minister of Justice any plan to renew the weekend sentences program or is he preparing any legislation to rescind weekend sentences?

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, I understand there are press reports along the lines of the hon. member's question. I can say we have not received any complaints from officials about the operation of serving sentences on weekends. I have recently completed a meeting with the ten provincial attorneys-general at which sentencing was discussed as a specific topic on the agenda. This matter was not discussed or complained about at that meeting. Of course, if there have been complaints made from Winnipeg I will examine those complaints, but I think there generally have not been complaints. Such a technique where appropriate is a desirable one.

**Mr. McKenzie:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to point out to the Minister that the *Winnipeg Free Press* has conducted a study across Canada in consultation with the provinces. They all have the same complaint. The deputy director of the B.C. Correctional Institute stated he had been complaining for four years. Perhaps the minister would investigate this.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

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### INDUSTRY

#### SHIPBUILDING—REQUEST FOR FLEXIBILITY IN SUBSIDY PROGRAM

**Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. There has been some criticism of the government's federal shipbuilding subsidy program by the president of the Canadian Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing Association. Will the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce indicate what active consideration is being given to the proposals of the association in order to achieve a more flexible subsidy program, while at the same time providing much needed employment opportunities for some of Canada's unemployed.

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, I met last week with some of the authors of the particular submission to which the hon. member referred and indicated to them, and indeed as recently as this morning, that I was prepared to sit down with them again to try to figure out the kind of flexible program to which the hon. member has referred. In the meantime, I think it is fair to say that some accommodation has been reached with the shipbuilding industry, not entirely satisfactory, but nevertheless an improvement over the previous situation with regard to the disposition of the funds as provided in the current year's estimates, that is construction programs which are presently underway. The short answer is that we are in constant touch