

Oral Questions

er. It involves an activity reported today in the Vancouver harbour. Can the Solicitor General advise the House what the present situation is in respect of the apparently explosive problem in Vancouver harbour where a ship manned by Chinese crewmen has been boarded by officers of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police? We are informed that individual crewmen—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the hon. member might allow the minister to reply. I might add that this is hardly a supplementary question, although it may be related. Perhaps the minister might be given an opportunity to reply to the first part of the hon. member's question.

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I have no report on that incident, but I would be pleased to get one and get back to the hon. member as soon as possible.

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MULTICULTURALISM**AWARDING OF ADVERTISING CONTRACT TO OUTREACH INCORPORATED—COMPANY SHAREHOLDERS**

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the minister responsible for multiculturalism. In view of the minister's statement yesterday that he was unaware of the extent of Charles Templeton's shareholding in Outreach Incorporated which received a \$200,000 advertising contract from the minister's department, would the minister inform the House whom he thought he was dealing with when he promised the contract to Outreach last year and, in particular, did he know that Douglas Breithaupt was also a 25 per cent shareholder in that firm?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will appreciate that a question asked in those terms is not in order. As I understood the question the hon. member asked the minister whom he thought he was dealing with in connection with a certain matter. I suggest that a question in those terms is highly irregular.

Mr. Stevens: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister whether he was influenced by that fact?

Hon. Stanley Haidasz (Minister of State): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I will recognize the hon. member on a supplementary question, but I draw to the attention of hon. members that we are not starting off on the right foot, if we expect to have many questioners today, when there are four or five or more supplementaries from a number of members on each question. Many members who are seeking to ask questions this afternoon will not have an opportunity. The hon. member for York-Simcoe has a second supplementary.

Mr. Stevens: In view of the fact that Outreach Incorporated was incorporated only in 1971, about the same time that the Prime Minister announced his new policy

[Mr. Fraser.]

regard to multiculturalism, would the minister table the correspondence he and his associates had with Outreach Incorporated so that the House may be satisfied as to the objectivity in the awarding of this contract, bearing in mind it was done without the benefit of other submissions?

Mr. Haidasz: Mr. Speaker, there was no personal correspondence or any correspondence of any kind then with Outreach. This company was highly recommended to me by other people and I made my decision based on their presentation of a possible information bulletin.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Rocky Mountain on a further supplementary and then recognize the hon. member for Selkirk, followed by the hon. member for Témiscamingue.

AUTHORITY OF MINISTER OVER PUBLIC SERVANTS INVOLVED IN PROGRAM

Mr. Joe Clark (Rocky Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is for the Minister of State who seems to be a little bit responsible for multiculturalism. Would the minister tell the House if in fact he has any authority whatsoever over civil servants involved in the multiculturalism program apart from those who are on his personal staff and, if so, what is the extent of that authority?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will agree, I am sure, that a question of this kind is normally placed on the order paper. If the hon. member wants to have it considered in priority at the time of adjournment, he will be given that opportunity.

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AIR CANADA**STRIKE BY FINANCIAL SECTION EMPLOYEES AT WINNIPEG—ALLEGED USE OF NON-UNION PERSONNEL BY COMPANY—REQUEST THAT BERNARD WILSON MEDIATE**

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour. I should like to ask the minister if he is aware, in respect of the strike of the finance section of Air Canada, that Air Canada is employing non-union clerical personnel to fill positions normally filled by the striking workers and, if so, will he make a recommendation to Air Canada that it cease and desist from this practice. Second, now that Mr. Bernard Wilson has finished his commitment with relation to the machinists' strike, will he be asked to become involved in the finance section strike?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I am considering lending any mediation services and personnel that would be welcomed by both sides in an effort to resolve this dispute. We will do anything that we can in the Department of Labour that will be helpful. With reference to the earlier part of the hon. member's question, I think that in terms of people hired by Air Canada the question should more appropriately be directed to the Minister of Transport.