Inquiries of the Ministry

The Crown Assets Disposal Corporation sells all kinds of things for the government. openly publish a list of the items it has for sale, on behalf of the government, in the newspapers?

Mr. Speaker: I do not believe this question can be permitted at this time, since it is not PROGRAM "SUNDAY"- ALLEGED PORTRAYAL very urgent. I think the hon. member might have put it on the order paper.

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PARTICIPATION OF CANADA IN ORGANIZA-TION OF AMERICAN STATES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): My question is addressed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I believe that he, with other members of this house, feels a great deal of friendship and sentiment toward another member of the Commonwealth which has emerged as an independent nation in the western hemisphere. I refer to Barbados. My question concerns a statement made yesterday at the independence celebrations by the new Prime Minister of Barbados, Errol Barrow, that the government of Barbados will seek immediate membership in the Organization of American States. The Barbados prime minister further stated: "We are going to make it easy for other Commonwealth countries in the area; we will take the initiative for other countries in the western hemisphere, including Canada".

Having in mind the many statements that our Secretary of State for External Affairs has made about Canada's entry into the O.A.S., would that hon. gentleman tell us his reaction to the statement of the Prime Minister of Barbados, and what is the policy of Canada in this regard?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I wonder if the question asked by the hon. member is not in the form of a statement? Certainly the hon. member is asking for a statement of general policy which should not be asked for during this period.

ganization of American States is something- parliament began to exercise control over the

[Mr. Caouette.]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I do not doubt the importance of the matter. Perhaps the Could the minister explain the reason why the Secretary of State for External Affairs may Crown Assets Disposal Corporation does not seize an early opportunity to make a statement on the point.

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

OF UNSUITABLE MATERIAL

On the orders of the day:

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Kamloops): I would like to ask the Secretary of State a question. Has the hon. lady any views to convey to this house as to how long the privileges conferred by this parliament on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation-the privileges of complete editorial freedom and corporate autonomy-will continue to be abused by the dissemination of the kind of garbage purveyed on the program "Sunday" on November 27.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I am afraid I cannot associate myself with the language my hon. friend uses. This is a matter of personal impression. My hon. friend knows that the corporation, within the limitations of reporting to parliament, has freedom within the dictates of good taste to put on certain programs. The program my hon. friend referred to has been adversely commented about by other members of the house, by members of the other place, and members of the public.

I have received a number of letters in the nature of complaints, all of which have gone forward to those responsible for the management of the corporation. Short of requiring, somehow, the resignation of those who manage the corporation, I cannot see in what way the government, or myself, could cause any change apart from that which will be caused. I am sure, by the many letters and telephone calls which the corporation will have received.

Mr. Fulton: Does the hon. lady not think that the management of the corporation Mr. Thompson: With all deference to you, should have not only some control over, but sir, I think this is an important issue. There also some responsibility for, this kind of has been a great deal of talk in this house thing? Does she not think that, though the about recognizing Red China. I think recog- operations of the corporation should be free nizing Canada's relationship to the Or- from political interference, it is time that