

Mr. Nesbitt: I thought I had made it fairly clear, Your Honour, and I think the Acting Prime Minister perhaps heard the substance of the question. I just wish to add, with particular reference to other groups known as Crunch and Commune-iton Collective.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Nesbitt: A supplementary, or at least—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the hon. member might allow a reply, and then he can ask a supplementary. We could start with the answer to that question and then go to the supplementary.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have spoken to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, and when he is here tomorrow he will be very happy to reply in detail. However, since one particular question was asked I thought I should take the opportunity of replying immediately. I saw the headline in the *Toronto Sun*, from which I think the hon. member got his report, dealing with the so-called Satan organization. May I point out to him that the plan for which application had been made was endorsed by such groups as the YMCA, the mental retardation centre—

Mr. Hees: That is understandable.

An hon. Member: Is that the government?

An hon. Member: The Privy Council office?

Mr. Baldwin: The Liberal party from Eglinton.

Mr. Sharp:—and in the same category, the Department of Health of Ontario, the Toronto Doctors Hospital and, if that is not sufficiently respectable, the Bank of Montreal.

Mr. Nesbitt: A supplementary question. I just ask the Acting Prime Minister, who is apparently a little nervous about this question—

Mr. Sharp: Oh, no!

Mr. Nesbitt: Perhaps the Acting Prime Minister would also arrange to have one of his colleagues inform the House of the reasons for turning down a grant to the Salvation Army branch on Lisgar Street in Toronto for assistance to the unemployed. As far as devil worship is concerned, it does not surprise me that they endorse it.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. In relation to the question asked by the hon. member may I say that normally questions relating to individual applications, unless in very special circumstances, ought to be placed on the order paper. I appreciate that in some instances there might be special circumstances, but as much as possible individual inquiries ought to be placed on the order paper or considered at the time of adjournment. I would point out to hon. members that we are running behind time.

Mr. Nesbitt: They should send the Prime Minister a long spoon for his dinner tonight.

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity): Does the Acting Prime Minister think it is appropriate for the government of Canada

Inquiries of the Ministry

to give \$26,000 in public funds to devil worshippers regardless of who recommends them?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: I suggest that is a point of argument. The hon. member for Trinity is inviting the Acting Prime Minister to express an opinion.

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE EXAMINATION OF GRANTS

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): In order to facilitate matters of this nature in the House, Mr. Speaker, could I ask the Acting Prime Minister or the House leader who was earlier in the House or the parliamentary secretary when he returns from behind the curtain, if they will consider a reference to the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration so that grants such as the one to the worshippers of Satan and other such eminent organizations alluded to by the hon. member for Oxford could be examined. In this way we could determine the basis for such decisions and recommend a set guidelines in order to give the representatives of the Canadian people more control over the dispensation of the taxpayers' dollar.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): When the estimates for this department are before the committee there will be ample opportunity, and I am sure the minister and his parliamentary secretary will be able to satisfy hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Hon. members in large numbers are again seeking to ask supplementaries. We will be running short of time and should give an opportunity to other members to ask questions.

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[Translation]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES ACT

DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT OF BILINGUAL DISTRICTS

Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question to the Secretary of State.

Since the Duhamel report on bilingual districts was tabled in the House nine months ago already, and since Official Languages Commissioner Keith Spicer stated recently that it was difficult to act as an ombudsman regarding official languages as long as the government will not proclaim the establishment of bilingual districts, could the minister tell us if the government intends to do so?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, the matter is under consideration by the cabinet.

Mr. Asselin: Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question.

Could the minister tell the House whether the establishment of bilingual districts will be made before the next federal election?