

Inquiries of the Ministry

talking about other sweets. Would the Secretary of State for External Affairs be so kind as to answer that question?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the government is aware of the representations which have been made by the Caribbean governments. Indeed, I personally met with Mr. Lightbourne, Minister of Trade for Jamaica, and we are now studying ways of meeting those representations.

PUBLIC SERVICE

ESTABLISHMENT OF FRENCH-SPEAKING UNITS

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. Was the Secretary of State expressing government policy last night when he said, as reported in *Le Droit*, that there would be French-speaking units in the Public Service, as recommended by the third report of the B and B Commission, perhaps before the end of this session?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I see the Secretary of State indicating by his facial expression that that is not quite an accurate quotation of his position.

Mr. Nowlan: Then, could I ask a supplementary question of the Secretary of State. Was the Secretary of State correctly reported in *Le Droit* as saying that this question would be decided—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The question cannot be asked in that way, as the hon. member knows. Perhaps he would ask the question directly.

Mr. Nowlan: This is not a canard. Canards come in English, but I do not know whether they come en français. May I ask the Prime Minister whether this matter is under active consideration by the cabinet, and will there be a declaration of government policy before the House rises, if it does rise, on June 26?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the question as put seems to be hypothetical, but I am prepared to answer it. Yes, the matter has been considered by cabinet. I cannot recollect whether a statement has been made or whether it has been decided that a statement will be made, but I will check into the matter and let the hon. member know, if he will remind me subsequently.

[Mr. Paproski.]

Mr. Nowlan: I have a supplementary question for the Secretary of State.

Mr. Speaker: Order. May I bring to the attention of the hon. member that we are running short of time. Perhaps he has a short supplementary.

Mr. Nowlan: Did the Secretary of State say last night that he thought these units would be in the Public Service—

Mr. Speaker: Order. This is a question as I have indicated to the hon. member that, according to the rules, cannot be asked.

IMMIGRATIONREPRESENTATION OF APPLICANTS BEFORE
APPEAL BOARD BY UNQUALIFIED
PERSONS

Mr. Hyl Chappell (Peel South): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the fact that hundreds of would-be immigrants are being badly represented before the Immigration Appeal Board by people who pretend to be but are not solicitors and are not capable, will the minister, as requested by the Immigration Appeal Board, amend the regulations to stop this abuse of so many would-be newcomers to Canada?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the suggestion made by my hon. friend is under very active consideration at the moment. There are compelling arguments for and against the proposition, and until they can be fully assessed no change will be made.

EXERCISE BY APPEAL BOARD OF DISCRETION
RESPECTING POLITICAL PERSECUTION AND
COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration in his capacity as the minister responsible for the Immigration Appeal Board. When checking with the Immigration Appeal Board, would the minister ensure that the board exercises fully the discretion given to it under the act by section 15(1)(b) regarding political persecution and compassionate grounds? I have in mind especially those of Greek origin who may be sent back to Greece at this particular time.

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, as my