

Inquiries of the Ministry

quota and someone who purchases the herd. The quota goes along with the herd, or any part of the herd.

Mr. Nesbitt: Is that what causes trafficking in quotas?

Mr. Olson: From the way the hon. member put his question, and I will be glad to review it, I understand that all this information relating to all the transfers would have to be taken out of the records. That is where the 700 hours come in. These records are kept by us—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I imagine that the matter might be further reviewed elsewhere between the hon. member and the minister.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**ASSURANCE THAT INDIA HAS NOT PRODUCED WEAPON-GRADE PLUTONIUM**

Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Is the minister in a position to assure the House that India is not producing and has not produced any weapon grade plutonium PU-239 since it was supplied with the Canada-India reactor in 1960?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, this is a very technical question. I would like to find out exactly what this product is before answering the question. I will take it as notice.

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[Translation]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**ACTION TO ALLEVIATE SHORTAGE OF JUDGES—INQUIRY INTO INCREASE IN CRIME**

Mr. Albert Béchard (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I would like to answer the question which the hon. member for Peace River asked Tuesday to the Acting Prime Minister in the absence of the hon. Minister of Justice in order to allay his concern over the shortage of judges in the province of Ontario.

The Department of Justice is currently drafting amendments to the Judges Act which will substantially increase the number of judges in that province.

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[English]

IMMIGRATION**GROUNDS FOR BARRING ENTRY OF ABBIE HOFFMAN**

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): I wish to address my question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Yesterday the minister was asked about the admission to Canada of a gentleman named Abbie Hoffman for the purpose of some program. At that time he replied he had not ruled on that matter. I understand that since then this gentleman has been refused admission to Canada. What is the reason for this action? Also, does this represent a change in policy on the part of the department?

[Mr. Olson]

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): I will not repeat my answer of yesterday, Mr. Speaker, since it is on the record. I do not think it is necessarily what the hon. member suggests. I can report a little further on the case. Mr. Hoffman subsequently presented himself at a port of entry. He was examined in accordance with the Immigration Act. He was found to be in a prohibited class under Section 5D of the Act and was ordered deported. He did not appeal.

Mr. Brewin: Will the minister state whether advice was sought from the Department of Justice on whether the offence of which he was convicted in the United States is a crime involving moral turpitude within the meaning of the Immigration Act?

Mr. Lang: I will have to check to see whether specific advice was sought with regard to this particular offence. Of course, there would be general consultations between the departments with regard to the question of how these words should be interpreted over a period of time.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The question period expired some minutes ago. Perhaps the matter raised by the hon. member for Greenwood might be continued tomorrow by the hon. member and the hon. member for Egmont. For the moment, perhaps the hon. member for Edmonton Centre might be permitted to ask a question.

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, because of the iniquitous roster system it will not be possible to continue this matter tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. In view of the circumstances referred to by the hon. member for Egmont, perhaps he might be allowed to ask a supplementary.

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Can the minister indicate the reason why this ruling was different from that of the present House Leader when last September this gentleman was admitted to Canada for a brief period? Has there been a change in policy since the September admittance?

[Later:]

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): I rise on a question of privilege. A moment ago I asked the Minister of Manpower and Immigration the reason for the change of policy. The minister was not permitted to answer. I wonder whether the minister might be permitted to answer because I believe it forms an important part of the inquiry at this point.

Mr. Speaker: When hon. members ask questions such as why a decision is different from what it was before, that is a debating point rather than a legitimate question. This is the reason I interrupted the minister before he had a chance to reply. I am not certain whether he wished to reply. If it is the wish of the House to conclude the matter in some way, the minister might be allowed to reply to the hon. member's question.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Lang: The decision does not reflect any change of policy. Each particular case, of course, has to be examined on its own merits. Obviously, differences of time and circumstances can affect a particular decision.