

Oral Questions

Where, in the dying days of this Parliament, is that legislation?

Mrs. Barbara Sparrow (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Madam Speaker, with regard to the thinning of the ozone layer and the ultraviolet rays, it is indeed a concern for all of us.

I know the Minister of the Environment has spoken on this often. He has also assisted in implementing guidelines and indeed public information and education with regard to how dangerous ultraviolet rays can be, particularly for young people, old people and those of us with fair skin.

• (1455)

We certainly will make sure that this public awareness continues and further education is done.

Ms. Lynn Hunter (Saanich—Gulf Islands): A supplementary, Madam Speaker. I know that the Minister of the Environment has not spoken on the environment over the last couple of months so he obviously does not share the urgency that our committee members felt.

I want to go back. This government has a responsibility to the Canadian public to regulate the sale of sun screens and sun-glasses in the interests of reducing skin cancer and cataracts.

When is this government going to act? When is it going to legislate to protect the Canadian public?

Mrs. Barbara Sparrow (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Madam Speaker, indeed sun screens and sun-glasses are extremely important for all of us when we are exposed to ultraviolet rays.

There is a great deal being done with regard to public information and education on this. If one looks back very carefully it will be noted that the Minister of the Environment has been very vocal on this issue on how all Canadians have to take responsibility to protect themselves.

* * *

[Translation]

VIOLENCE

Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Communications.

In the June 1993 issue of *Justice League*, the superhero starts his series of adventures in Quebec, more specifically in a toy warehouse in Montreal, and it is all very violent. A Quebec printing firm is responsible for printing and distributing the comic book in Quebec and Canada.

My question is this: Considering the comments by my colleague, the hon. member for Laval—Est, about this publication which is sold in Canada and printed in Quebec does the Minister of Communications, who is in favour of getting rid of violence on television, think we should let this kind of magazine be distributed in Canada and be available to our children? What steps does he intend to take to ban this comic book immediately?

[English]

Hon. Doug Lewis (Solicitor General of Canada): Madam Speaker, if I may I would like to reply on behalf of the Minister of Justice.

The Minister of Justice has in fact asked his officials to review the comic book in question. However, I would point out to my hon. friend that it would appear to us at first glance that if any Criminal Code infraction has occurred it would be a prosecution carried by the Attorney General of Quebec.

* * *

AIR INDIA

Hon. Alan Redway (Don Valley East): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General who is aware that eight years ago this month Air India flight 182 crashed, killing over 300 Canadians. Since that time the RCMP has been conducting the most costly investigation there has ever been in the history of Canada.

After eight years is it not now time that we either laid charges or instituted a judicial inquiry?

Hon. Doug Lewis (Solicitor General of Canada): Madam Speaker, with reference to my hon. friend's question I make no apologies whatsoever for spending whatever money is necessary to try and bring the people who perpetrated this heinous offence to justice.

If it is a question of money, that issue has never been brought up. We have never in any way suggested that the RCMP impede its investigation on account of cost. In fact, very costly investigations have been undertaken by the RCMP and it is reporting to me periodically. I would