

*Oral Questions*

of this year, January and February we saw a substantial increase in import permits, and this while last year's levels were already unacceptable. I would like to know whether or not the Minister intends to implement the policy he announced last year?

**Hon. Gerald Regan (Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, the situation in the textile industry is a difficult one at the present time. First of all, we must protect the workers. We have taken steps to protect their jobs. Last week, I met with the Advisory Council representing the industry, and we hope to be making recommendations to the Government within the next few weeks.

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[English]

**POOLS**

## SPORTS POOL CORPORATION

**Hon. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton North):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport. I always thought that Government over there was a Government of compromise. There were three Ministers in that portfolio prior to the present Minister. One is in the other place. He is going to lose a baseball franchise because of the lotteries. The second, who just spoke, was a sports broadcaster. He had a difficult time with his French lesson. The third Minister, from Montreal-Mercier, was a loser as far as sport was concerned. But I would like to ask the present Minister, who is at least a golfer, why has he not sat down with his provincial counterparts to reach a compromise as far as the sports lottery is concerned, a sports lottery which is now reaping the Government \$35 million annually?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jacques Olivier (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)):** Mr. Speaker, the issue is quite simple. First of all, since the federal Government has nothing to do with lotteries, we could hardly sit down with some people and talk about lotteries. So much for that.

Second, Mr. Speaker, it must be recalled that in 1979 the Government of Mr. Clark simply gave up its rights in the field of lotteries.

Third, it exchanged some \$300 million to \$400 million for revenues of about \$200 million. It is easy to trade in a Cadillac for a Volkswagen!

Fourth, Mr. Speaker, we told everybody involved in lotteries that we have no intention of invading that field and that the athletic events pools we are setting up will be used only to help amateur sports, the Calgary Olympics and medical research. I think that it is clear and that the position of the former Government is quite clear. It was clear as well for all previous Ministers and only the Hon. Member opposite seems to be confused.

[English]

## REQUEST FOR FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL MEETING

**Hon. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton North):** Is the Minister aware that if he were to sit down with his counterparts he would be able to have at least three or four draws annually for the Calgary Olympics? Since the Minister has not had contact with his provincial counterparts, would he like me to set up a meeting to resolve the whole matter as a conciliator? Vous comprenez, Jacques?

**Hon. Jacques Olivier (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)):** Mr. Speaker, I understand very well. If I would take the Hon. Member as a conciliator, we would lose hundreds of millions of dollars.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

[Translation]

**Mr. Olivier:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to repeat here that we intend to respect the 1979 agreement. But what we did not do, however, was to give away our right to set up sports pools. That is why the House of Commons adopted a law and we have every intention of getting into sports pools.

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[English]

**INDIAN AFFAIRS**

## TRANSFER OF FUNDS WITHIN BAND BUDGETS

**Mr. Jack Shields (Athabasca):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Has he flown the coup again? I will, then, direct my question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Mr. Speaker. When will the Minister give direction to his Department to allow bands to transfer funds within their budgets from one category to another? When is he going to do this? He has gone across the country saying he is for Indian self-government. When is he going to allow this to happen?

**Mr. Nielsen:** Here is your chance!

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member for Yukon says this is my chance. I would only comment, Mr. Prime Minister, in view of some of the answers given by some of my colleagues on this side, there is going to be a rich opportunity for the backbench when I am in charge.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. McDermid:** Line up, boys!

**Mr. Munro (Hamilton East):** I would say this, Mr. Speaker, if the Government can expect the support, which we hope we