

the environment and so forth. Is the government planning to soon have an inquiry into the impact of nuclear energy use in Canada?

Mr. Maurice Foster (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I can say that no decision has been made on this. As the hon. member will know, there is already a public inquiry in the province of Ontario into all other methods of producing electricity. I will take note of the hon. member's suggestion and report back to him.

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[Translation]

SOCIAL SECURITY

REQUEST THAT FAMILY ALLOWANCE CHEQUES BE DISTRIBUTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

Mr. Jacques Lavoie (Hochelaga): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Considering that the Quebec government has offered the federal government to distribute family allowance cheques, so that people in the low income bracket may use this money they have been waiting for since November 20, could the minister advise the House whether he intends to contact the proper authorities and expedite the distribution of the family allowance cheques which these people need to feed themselves?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the most effective and rapid distribution method remains that proposed by the Minister of Supply and Services. In the case of those who are in need and who immediately require the family allowance equivalent, may I remind the hon. member that the emergency services provided for under the Canada Assistance Plan are available. Every province may take advantage of them to advance all needy families the money they need, and the federal government will share equally in the cost of these advances made to needy families. This is already available, and the provinces have all been encouraged to make use of the emergency services provided under the Canada Assistance Plan.

Mr. Lavoie: Mr. Speaker, I want to ask a supplementary question.

Could the minister tell the House then whether he intends to advise his counterparts in Quebec of what he has just told us? They do not seem to be aware of this opportunity since they do not use it?

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, I must tell the hon. member that for several days now we have been in contact with every one of the provinces—including Quebec—on this subject.

Oral Questions

[English]

IMMIGRATION

SUGGESTION CANADA RESERVE RIGHT TO REFUSE PERMISSION TO PLO DELEGATES TO ATTEND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS CONFERENCE

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the threats by Shahik Al-Hout that world-wide pressure will be applied to Canada if we refuse permission to any member of the PLO to attend the Human Settlements Conference next year, will the minister publicly reject this attempt at blackmail by a person who is in this country on a ministerial permit and assure Canadians that the government will exercise her sovereign right to reject admittance to the conference of any person who violates her immigration laws or regulations?

● (1440)

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): The policy has been clearly stated. It is that members of prohibited organizations will only be allowed in by ministerial permit and then only if it is established that they are not, individually, terrorists or members of terrorist sub-groups. If they were in those categories, permission to enter would be denied.

Miss MacDonald: A supplementary to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. In the light of the statement by the Minister of Manpower and Immigration and of recent statements by Shahik Al-Hout, would the minister advise the United Nations Secretary General that Canada will not submit to threats such as we have heard in the past week by any delegation which is using the conference as a propaganda forum for its own political ends?

Hon. Barney Danson (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Unfortunately, I did not hear either the original question or the answer given by my colleague. Thus, it is difficult for me to deal with the supplementary. I was rather busy building houses here.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

INVESTIGATION OF SKY SHOPS—INQUIRY WHETHER SEARCH WARRANT ISSUED TO SEARCH PREMISES OF LIBERAL PARTY

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Solicitor General. With reference to the search warrant with respect to the residence of Senator Giguère, I should like to ask the minister whether at the same time a warrant was issued to search the premises of the Liberal Party of Canada? Was a request made by the RCMP to do this and, if not, why not?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, we do not give out details of police investigations in the House of Commons.