

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Prince George-Peace River.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

EXTRA-PARLIAMENTARY OPPOSITION LIST AND BREAK-IN AT PRAXIS CORPORATION—POSSIBILITY OF INVESTIGATION

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. I should like to ask if he had any consultations with the Prime Minister last week in light of the extraordinary events that unfolded in connection with the extraparliamentary opposition scandal and the break-in at Praxis Corporation in Toronto, particularly those events which led this House to believe there were threats to life from an unknown source. Has the minister been consulted and asked by the Prime Minister to launch an investigation through his department?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Justice): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Oberle: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. It is not my intention of course to reveal the names of agents and collaborators which the Solicitor General knows about, but certainly it should have been the intention of the minister to assist in revealing the names of people who are making threats to the life and safety of people. Is it the intention of the minister and his department to involve themselves in this rather critical situation?

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, the Solicitor General indicated last week that the matter had been referred to the attorney general of Ontario who is responsible for breaches of the criminal law which occur within the province of Ontario.

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SUPPLY AND SERVICES

INQUIRY AS TO THREATS TO MINISTER'S LIFE

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): A final supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, directed to the Minister of Supply and Services. I should like to ask the minister if he, like myself, has been contacted by persons unknown to me and if he has been threatened if he revealed any of the facts connected with this extraparliamentary opposition scandal?

An hon. Member: You ask no questions you get no answers.

Oral Questions

INDUSTRY

FOOTWEAR—REQUEST OF MANUFACTURERS FOR REDUCTION OF IMPORTS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. As no less than 21 Canadian shoe manufacturing companies have been forced out of business in the last 18 months because of imports from low wage countries such as Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe, does the minister intend to accede to the request of the Shoe Manufacturers Association of Canada that imports of shoes be reduced to 40 per cent of domestic consumption from the present 55 per cent to bring them more in line with what the United States and the European Economic Community have done to obtain a reasonable share of the domestic market for their domestic producers?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, a few months ago I met the representatives of this organization who have agreed with me that the best way to proceed was to ask the Anti-Dumping Tribunal to carry out a study at its earliest convenience. The tribunal was to carry out this study within a six-month period. I shall therefore send a message this week to the effect that I should like to be provided very shortly with an interim report, so as to act, should the need arise, on the findings this tribunal may have come up with.

[English]

Mr. Hees: A supplementary question. As the anti-dumping tribunal has evidently submitted its interim report, with which the minister does not seem to be conversant, stating that it does not recommend such a course and the Canadian Shoe Manufacturers Association is urgently requesting that the government take action to stop Canadian shoe manufacturing businesses from rapidly going out of operation, will the minister take action?

[Translation]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, as soon as this report is received, we shall make the necessary decisions. Indeed, we must comply with the current legislation in this area and we do not enjoy the same flexibility under this legislation as in the textile industry, where we demonstrated last November that we could act quickly.

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[English]

BANK OF CANADA

ESTIMATED COST OF NEW OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance. As it is 17 months since we had the last estimate of the cost of the new Bank of Canada building on Wellington Street in spite of many inquiries in this House and in commit-