

POST OFFICE

MONTREAL MAIL ROBBERIES

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Solicitor General. It deals with a matter in which I am sure he is deeply interested, namely mail robberies in Montreal, of which there have been three within two days.

In light of the increasing incidence of major thefts of mail, can he advise whether any special measures are being taken by the protective authorities so that mail deliveries, although now unreasonably slow, will remain reasonably sure?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I should like to give a long and informative answer to that question, but I do not feel competent to do so at the moment. I will be glad to look at the hon. member's question to see whether there is an answer that I can give to any part of it.

SOCIAL SECURITY

INQUIRY AS TO ESTABLISHMENT
OF INCOME FLOOR

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. I am glad to see he is lending an ear. In view of his fervent expression of concern last weekend for people on low income, and in view of representations made yesterday in Halifax to the Senate committee on poverty, is the government now prepared to consider the establishment of an income floor below which no Canadian will be allowed to fall?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I think that the question as asked is rather broad in nature. The hon. member is asking for a statement of policy. I doubt very much that the question is acceptable in those terms.

Mrs. MacInnis: Then, could I put it in another form? Would the Prime Minister be willing to consider making a statement on motions very shortly about this matter which is concerning a great many Canadians?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member is talking about a guaranteed annual income, yes, we have been considering it for some time. I am not in a position to say when a statement will be made, because as a government we are not yet satisfied that this is a realistic step.

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

SPORTS

POSSIBLE REVISION OF AID PROGRAM

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Munro).

Since the need for sports and recreation facilities is becoming increasingly urgent in Canada and since such facilities are not subsidized at all under the Fitness and Amateur Sport Program, does the minister intend to review the government policy in this connection during the present session?

[English]

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, there are certain programs now under review that assist in the provision of facilities. I would remind the hon. member that his statement is not correct. The federal government has shared substantially in the provision of sports facilities across Canada under the aegis of the Canada Games and Pan-Am Games committees during the last few years.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

RAID ON OFFICE OF FREDERICTON "GLENER"

Hon. Hugh John Flemming (Carleton-Charlotté): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address my question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Is the minister familiar with the question asked by me one day last week of my hon. friend the Minister of Justice in relation to the apparently discriminatory raid that was recently carried out by officials under the Combines Investigation Act on the premises of the *Daily Gleaner* of Fredericton? If so, is he prepared to answer it now?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I am also familiar with some of the newspaper editorials that have attacked the conduct of my officers.

I should like to inform the house that I have investigated these allegations and I am quite satisfied that my officials, all of whom are professionally trained, comported themselves with complete courtesy to those involved. They acted in a polite and efficient manner and confined their search to matters concerning the ownership and control of the newspapers involved. The search that they were conducting was carried out by these representatives pursuant to section 10 of the