

*Oral Questions*

iceberg. In view of further revelations that Canada is a base of operations in the exploitation of humans in the most repugnant manner, I would like to ask the minister whether charges have been laid in connection with both cases I brought to his attention. Especially in this latest case, has he laid charges and, if not, why not?

**Mr. Cullen:** Mr. Speaker, thankfully, we have one of the best federal police forces in the world and I think it has done a commendable job in this regard. The whistle had to be blown a little earlier here, again, I think, in a humanitarian way because of the two children involved and the somewhat intemperate weather.

As I indicated to the hon. member during the study of estimates and here in the House, the marriage of convenience question is very difficult. It is a judgment call which has to be made. When a lady swears undying love for a gentleman and says this is what she has been waiting for all her life, it is a pretty tough call for someone to make.

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**FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS**CONSTITUTIONALITY OF RESTRICTION ON ONTARIANS  
WORKING IN QUEBEC

**Mr. Maurice A. Dionne (Northumberland-Miramichi):** Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the one asked by my colleague, the hon. member for Ottawa-Vanier, and I direct it to the Prime Minister. In view of the policy of the elitist government of Quebec to eliminate freedom of movement not only interprovincially but also within the boundaries of Quebec, can the Prime Minister advise the House whether he has decided to have this arbitrary and unCanadian law referred to the supreme court to determine its constitutionality? This law could have serious effects on workers in Quebec as well as in several other provinces.

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I share the concern of the hon. member but I am afraid I cannot add much to what I said late last week in answer to a question. The matter is being looked at by the Department of Justice and we will get advice from that department on the matter of a reference.

In the meantime, I repeat that this is a matter which we hope will be solved between the two provinces mainly concerned. I understand that Premier Davis and Premier Lévesque have been in communication on this matter. It is the general desire of the provinces that we not intervene in matters of provincial jurisdiction. I hope the premiers themselves will be able to settle this matter, but if they want our help and if it is possible, we will gladly give it to them.

[Mr. Epp.]

**MULTICULTURALISM**

## FUNDING OF FRENCH-SPEAKING GROUPS OUTSIDE QUEBEC

**Mr. Stan Schumacher (Palliser):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the President of the Treasury Board. In view of the minister's desire to cut government expenditures which effort, he says, is restricted by obligations imposed by statutory transfer payments to the provinces, can the minister say whether he considers it proper for the province of Quebec to fund the activities of French-speaking groups outside Quebec, as has been recently described by the Hon. Claude Morin, who in turn has been described by Premier Lévesque as his foreign minister?

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, I suppose the key question would be with whose funds such activities are being financed. I am not aware that any federal funds transferred to the province of Quebec are being so used.

**Mr. Schumacher:** Mr. Speaker, can the minister assure us that activities funded by the province of Quebec are not of this nature, and is there any monitoring device to make sure that federal funds which are paid by way of transfer are not used in this way? Are the activities involved in any way similar to those previously carried on by the Parizeau spy network?

**Mr. Andras:** Mr. Speaker, I will have to examine that question carefully. I will take it as notice. I am not aware of any such trend, but I will investigate.

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**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

## EFFECT OF GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES

**Mr. Joe Clark (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring the Prime Minister back to the question regarding the National Energy Board. The Prime Minister indicates it is his view that the National Energy Board is exclusively a quasi-judicial body and consequently exempt from conflict of interest guidelines. On consulting the act setting up the National Energy Board, he will find that section 22 vests clear advisory functions. I quote the relevant section as follows:

—shall recommend to the minister such measures within the jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada as it considers necessary—

Consequently, it is very clear that the National Energy Board is not exclusively a regulatory body. I should say, in passing, that the Prime Minister is trying to draw a red herring across this debate when he suggests that quasi-judicial bodies are in exactly the same position as judicial bodies. Let us put that to one side for the moment. Given the advisory nature set out in the statute of the National Energy Board, is it the intention of the Prime Minister to continue to exempt people associated with the National Energy Board from the conflict of interest guidelines?