Oral Questions

bill dealing strictly with the sale of coins, stamps and the lottery, could he inform the House whether there is any anticipation that the already committed direct costs by the federal government to aid the Olympics are likely to increase? I am talking about diplomatic help from External Affairs, immigration costs, CBC coverage, use of the armed forces and RCMP for security purposes, CMHC involvement and other direct assistance.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the various forms of assistance that the hon. member has stated were made clear in a statement to the House before the bill for assisting the Olympics in the way he has said was passed and supported, I believe, by all parties in the House. There may have been some escalation in costs. I have no calculations, Mr. Speaker, but obviously if the salary of an RCMP constable has gone up, for instance, I presume that will have some impact on the cost.

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[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT TO ADMINISTER EXTERNAL AID

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the leader of the government.

Given the magnitude of the CIDA budget and especially the ever increasing importance for Canada, according to the very spirit of his New Year message, to share with developing countries, is the leader of the government considering bringing, in the near future, CIDA activities under a separate department whose orientation and expenses would be submitted from day to day for the consideration of members of this House?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

PROPOSAL TO EXAMINE OPERATIONS OF CIDA— GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is addressed to the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs. In light of the numerous allegations concerning the operation, policies and direction of CIDA, many of which demand immediate answers, allegations of which we have only seen the tip, will the Secretary of State for External Affairs agree to make a full statement to this House early next week or seek an immediate meeting of the Standing Committee on External Affairs, to which no order of reference has been given since October and no sitting of such committee has taken place?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, within a very short time the estimates of the government for the next year will be presented to the House, and there will be an immediate and automatic reference of the estimates of CIDA and external affairs to the standing committee. That is the

|Mr. Jelinek.|

time when members of the House can inquire. I am sure that the president of CIDA and, of course, the Secretary of State for External Affairs will be happy to be present.

AIRPORTS

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TORONTO INTERNATIONAL—DATE OF DECISION ON INQUIRY REPORT

Mr. Jim Fleming (York West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Transport. Considering the continuing serious environmental problems in northwestern Metro Toronto as a result of the overload at Toronto international airport, can the minister indicate if the government will be making an early decision on the Pickering airport inquiry report?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I hope that we can make this decision very early.

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ENERGY

PROPOSED OIL REFINERY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA—ROUTE OF PIPELINE TO SERVE REFINERY

Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. At the recent meeting of the west coast tanker traffic group in Washington, United States officials inquired about the status of Canadian plans for additional oil refinery capacity in British Columbia. I should like to ask the minister if that includes a refinery plan for Surrey, B.C. and, if so, did the pipeline that the officials discussed involve a route from Cherry Point, Washington to Surrey?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I believe the proposal by the British Columbia corporation for a refinery in the lower mainland is a decision entirely within the jurisdiction of the province of British Columbia. While we have some indication that the corporation is considering such an establishment, we cannot be firm about whether it is likely to go ahead. As to the question of a pipeline, the discussion was, in general terms, about the possible development of Port Angeles as a site for landing Alyeska oil so as to avoid the heavy movement into Puget Sound. There are several options from that, including the possibility of reversing the flow of Trans-Mountain Pipeline and indeed serving the lower mainland refineries but there has been no precise proposition on that point.

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TRANSPORT

REQUEST OF MARITIME PROVINCES FOR DELAY IN IMPLEMENTING FREIGHT RATE INCREASES

Mr. Andy Hogan (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Transport.