

terms of reference refer to allegations of four specific criminal acts, and if it is to achieve its stated goal to which he agreed on June 17 in the House, surely it has to obtain such information as the operational procedures of the RCMP. If the minister agrees to that and objects only to certain details, I repeat, why does he not cancel co-operation on the details but at least leave with the province the right to have that inquiry?

[Translation]

**Mr. Fox:** Mr. Speaker, I have no objection to the attorney general of Quebec inquiring into specific criminal acts committed within the limits of his province. That has always been our position on this side of the House. But I suggest that when one wants to have a series of documents such as the organization chart of the security service, when one wants to know how the RCMP goes about getting information on such things as technical or electronic devices, on human sources, and when one is interested in recruiting, relationships, payments and all searches that might have been done by the security service, in interviews on subjects of interest, in infiltration, surveillance and shadowing, in the classification system of the RCMP, in the operations of internal communications between various police forces, in internal disciplinary investigations, in the inquiry led within the RCMP, in relationships between the RCMP commissioner, the director general of security and high officials within the offices of the Solicitor General, the Prime Minister of Canada, the cabinet, the Privy Council, in kidnapping, Mr. Speaker, int—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The hon. member for Richmond.

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## GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

### ROLE OF ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

**Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister. Last Friday the Prime Minister told us that Mr. Pierre André Bissonnette, who is now First Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, will become Assistant Solicitor General on November 29, 1977. Would the Prime Minister tell the House what will be the role of the Assistant Solicitor General in view of the revelations made everywhere, especially in the newspapers in the last few weeks, about the operations of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Well, Mr. Speaker, I expect the new Assistant Solicitor General to play the role assigned to him by the legislation, that is administering the department, and I am convinced that he will do so competently and with great success.

**Mr. Beaudoin:** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary. Could the Prime Minister inform the House how he intends to use this appointment to give more control and more information to the House about the operations of the RCMP in accordance with its true mandate, which is to protect honest citizens?

## Oral Questions

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, when we consider the budgetary estimates, the House will have the opportunity to call on the new deputy minister and ask him questions about the administration of his department. Of course, general policy matters will continue to be the responsibility of the minister and he will be the one to account for the general policy of his department before the estimates committee.

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● (1432)

[English]

## SOCIAL SECURITY

### GUARANTEED ANNUAL INCOME—SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR PROGRAM

**Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Given that the minister has in the past refused to tell the House what her estimates are for the annual cost of a guaranteed annual income program and refused to say specifically from where the money to pay for it would come and given that I have been told by experts that at least \$350 million will be required to get this program off the ground, is the minister still sticking to the story that no new budget funds will be required by her department to implement this program?

**Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I answered that question about two weeks ago, and perhaps I can repeat the explanation I gave. Perhaps the misunderstanding arises from the hon. member's view of a universal guaranteed annual income scheme. I was talking about people in three particular target groups who could be and should be the first Canadians to be protected because of their vulnerability. I recall speaking about workers who are under the minimum wage rule. The proposal for these three groups is under study in my department, and we are reviewing possibilities of rearranging the existing budget approved for my department.

### GUARANTEED ANNUAL INCOME—PROGRAMS TO BE CANCELLED TO FUND SCHEME

**Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca):** The minister has stated that she plans to finance this program by rearranging existing programs. Can she tell the House specifically which program she plans to cancel? Does she plan to cancel the income support part of the Canada Assistance Plan, the family allowance or the old age pension? What specific program will the minister cancel in order to get funding for a guaranteed annual income program?

**Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to cancel programs for those in need. I would like to reaffirm very strongly that we are studying rearrangements which would take away—if I can put it that way—from those who do not need universal pro-