Oral Ouestions

Mr. Fulton: I was just reminded, Mr. Speaker, that dead Liberals are okay!

Mr. Hnatyshyn: You are sitting next to 40 of them!

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

DIXON ENTRANCE BOUNDARY

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs is this. I am sure he recalls in 1984 how aggressive the Americans were in relation to the Dixon Entrance boundary. Will the Minister rise in the House today to assure British Columbians that under no circumstances would 54°-40°, or the Dixon Entrance boundary, be moved even one inch south?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, if dead Liberals are okay, I wonder if the Hon. Member could explain why his Party has spent so much of its time and energy in keeping them alive.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Mr. Speaker, if the Hon. Member reads my first answer carefully he will see that I answered his question before he put it, even though he put it late.

AGRICULTURE

BEEF IMPORTS FROM EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET

Mr. Geoff Wilson (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. It concerns the importation of Common Market beef into Canada. January 16 was the stated deadline for Revenue Canada to file a preliminary report on the dumping of subsidized EEC beef into Canada. Has that report been received? If not, why not?

Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member will realize that on September 24 the Canadian Cattlemen's Association made a request to the Anti-dumping Tribunal to commence a countervail action. That action commenced on october 16 and a preliminary determination was to be issued on January 16. The Deputy Minister Customs and Excise has issued a 45-day extension. The 45-day extension does not mean a 45-day delay but, rather, that the Deputy Minister has requested an extension to seek and assess additional information. He has made a firm commitment to make a preliminary determination before the end of January.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

ALLEGED SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF WOMEN MEMBERS

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. It deals with the sexist attitudes of the RCMP. I wish to ask him how he can expect the country to accept an internal investigation at a time when he ignores a statement made in a compendium to the report of the Committee on Equality Rights which clearly states on behalf of women in the RCMP:

In situations of harassment my female member friends and myself find that there is no one outside of each other that we can go to for support for fair treatment. If we tell anyone we are seen as crybabies or troublemakers... We have to suffer silently the harassment—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The question has been asked.

Ms. Copps: How can the Minister—

Mr. Speaker: The question has been asked.

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Solicitor General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, I will do my best to discern what the question was.

An Hon. Member: He said it was asked.

Mr. Beatty: It appears to be Liberal Party policy simply to attack the RCMP.

I have had the opportunity to meet with a number of the female members of the force in my tours across the country. I must say that I am particularly proud of them. The force has recruited a tremendous group of female members.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Beatty: It may very well be that the Hon. Member feels that under the Liberal Government not enough was done in terms of the recruitment of women, and I agree.

Mr. Nunziata: This is not a partisan issue.

Mr. Beatty: One of the commitments that we have made is to boost the recruitment of women and natives in the RCMP. It is a commitment which I personally make.

Mr. Waddell: Then look into this.

Mr. Beatty: Further, I have indicated to the House of Commons that in any instance where a member of the force who is prepared to lay a charge of sexual harassment comes forward that we will ensure it is fully investigated. If it is found to be justified, stern action will be taken.

Ms. Copps: Mr. Speaker, the women of the country and the Liberal Party do not want to be patronized. We want action.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

EMPLOYMENT EQUITY LEGISLATION

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, if the Solicitor General is not prepared to listen to the recommenda-