

Inquiries of the Ministry

answer it. A Canadian citizen by the name of Mrs. Chao has apparently been held in jail, without charge, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, for a number of weeks. Will the Prime Minister or the Acting Minister of Justice investigate this matter and make a report to the House? Mrs. Chao is a Canadian citizen from Vancouver, British Columbia.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I will take the question as notice and direct it to the minister who is responsible.

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IMMIGRATION**INQUIRY AS TO TABLING OF WHITE PAPER**

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): My question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Before asking my question I wish to congratulate him on his appointment to that important post. Is the white paper on immigration mentioned in the Speech from the Throne ready? If not, will it be ready soon so it can be examined by the appropriate committee of the House in order that the urgently needed legislation and changes in the regulations can be introduced at an early date?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the white paper is not ready. Certainly we consider it an important matter and therefore we will attempt to bring it forward as expeditiously as possible.

APPEAL BOARD CASE BACKLOG—AVAILABILITY OF STUDY

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): In view of the many cases being referred to the Immigration Appeal Board, the number having reached serious proportions with the backlog increasing at the rate of 300 per month, can the minister advise when the study of this serious problem undertaken by Mr. Joseph Sedgwick, Q.C., will be available?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): It is expected that this report will be available within a month.

Mr. Alexander: Will the minister at his earliest convenience make a statement on motions as to the steps his department has taken in the meantime to reduce this serious backlog?

Mr. Lang: I will certainly give consideration to that suggestion. I am not sure that a statement on motions would be the most appropriate method of conveying the information, but I will certainly look into the matter.

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[Translation]

TAXATION**WHITE PAPER ON REFORM—CAMPAIGN AGAINST CAPITAL GAINS TAX**

Mr. Pierre De Bané (Matane): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Finance whether he is aware of a campaign being carried on by province of Quebec

[Mr. Woolliams.]

radio stations jointly with Chambers of Commerce against taxation of capital gains? Are the Minister or the Government conscious of this violation of the Broadcasting Act, and of the injustice being perpetrated against those who would benefit by the measure, i.e. the silent majority? What steps does his department intend to take in this regard?

[English]

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): I cannot answer that question—I do not believe the translation came through in English—but I will be most pleased to look into it.

Mr. Speaker: My suggestion is that the minister take notice of the question asked by the hon. member and answer it in due course.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY**ACTION TO PREVENT SALE OF TEXTBOOK PUBLISHING COMPANIES TO FOREIGN CORPORATIONS**

Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina): I should like to address a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that only three publishing houses in the English textbook field are in Canadian hands, does the government intend to introduce legislation to protect our publishing houses from being sold to foreign corporations?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): This matter was dealt with a few days ago at some length by the Minister of National Revenue who is looking into the question of foreign ownership on behalf of the government. I have nothing to add to what he said at that time, though I would remind the hon. member that my colleague did say he would be taking up the particular subject of textbooks with the relevant provincial authority. As the hon. member knows, the provincial authority, in the field of education, can take action in this area.

Mr. Ryan: Of course they can, Mr. Speaker, but so can the federal government. This is a publishing matter, it is an elementary—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has been given the floor for the purpose of answering a supplementary question, not to make a speech.

Mr. Ryan: Is the government aware that another publishing house, Ryerson Press, is being looked over by a foreign buyer, an American buyer?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I take the liberty of reminding hon. members that it is not in order to ask whether the government is aware that something is being done, not being done, or might be done.