

Inquiries of the Ministry

Vickers to stay on strike as long as the federal government has not taken action to keep the shipyard in operation, is the minister taking steps to prevent Canadian Vickers from closing it down?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, as my bond of friendship with Mr. Michel Chartrand is about the same as that of the hon. member, it is certainly not for that reason that there would be an intervention.

As for the problem facing Canadian Vickers, it is extremely serious, and I think this part of the question should be directed to the Minister of Labour, and not to me.

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question.

As Mr. Michel Chartrand is a friend of us both, would the minister consider advising Canadian Vickers to sell their shares to Mr. Michel Chartrand, so that he could become the employer?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): The shipyard would close down even sooner, Mr. Speaker.

SHIPBUILDING**ENCOURAGEMENT TO MAINTAIN
MERCHANT SERVICE**

Mr. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, my question is a supplementary to an earlier one and should probably be directed to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

To avoid the closing down of Canadian Vickers and the laying-off of hundreds of workers, would the minister consider reapplying the policy of subsidies inaugurated by the Progressive Conservative government and which consisted in giving substantial aid to the dockyards for the building of ships?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): That policy is still in force, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I have a further supplementary question. Does the government still plan, as the minister said during the election campaign, to establish a merchant service in Canada, and in this way help save the shipbuilding industry in Canada?

Mr. Speaker: I think the hon. member is asking the minister for a general policy statement, and I do not believe such a question can be asked at this time.

[Mr. Caouette.]

*[English]***FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO PARTICIPATE
IN INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE**

Mr. H. Russell MacEwan (Central Nova): As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce if he or his department has advised the shipbuilding industry that the government will not participate in a committee to investigate shipbuilding in Canada?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, but I will find out.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**HAL BANKS—POSSIBILITY OF RENEWING
EXTRADITION PROCEEDINGS**

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. A week ago today the Minister of Justice advised the house that he had asked the Secretary of State for External Affairs to confer with the U.S. Secretary of State to clarify the position of Mr. Hal Banks and the possibilities of extraditing this man to Canada. Can the minister advise the house what the results of these conversations have been?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the State Department is now looking into the legal issues and will inform us as soon as possible of its conclusions. They have not yet reached a conclusion.

IMMIGRATION**SUBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT OF PERSONALITY
BY OFFICIALS**

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Now that he has satisfactorily cleared up the vexed question of the military status of would-be immigrants would he give consideration to revising the regulations so as to limit the purely subjective assessment of personality by immigration officers, which plays so large a part in the present point system?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the immigration regulations and the act are under review now, and that matter will be considered also.