

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

APPEAL OF DECISION IN STAFFORD SMYTHE INCOME TAX CASE

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, this question is directed to the Minister of Justice. Is it the intention of the minister to appeal the order of His Honour Judge Kelly who stated that the Crown had no legal right to proceed against Stafford Smythe by indictment with regard to charges under the Income Tax Act?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I have instructed the department to take mandamus action against that judgment.

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PUBLIC WORKS

EGANVILLE—PROGRESS TOWARD NEW FEDERAL BUILDING

Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Frontenac-Lennox and Addington): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Public Works which I hope is in order because I gave him notice of it. What progress is being made by his department on the project for a new federal building in the town of Eganville?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I would think this is a question which normally should be on the order paper. I regret I have to suggest that to the hon. member. If there is urgency the matter could be debated at the time of adjournment.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

REQUEST FOR PRESENTATION OF WHITE PAPER BY END OF YEAR

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, this question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the fact that the Minister of Labour has every intention to bring in legislation regarding the Unemployment Insurance Commission by July, 1971, in light of the fact that witnesses had difficulty presenting briefs and pointing out their position because they did not know where the government was going on social policy, and in light of the fact that the committee will probably have that same problem in presenting a report, can the minister give us any indication when he expects the government's white paper on social policy will be brought forward? If not, could he assure the House if this white policy—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Alexander: This white paper on policy. Mr. Speaker, it has never been my policy to say that white is not beautiful.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Alexander: I wonder whether the minister can possibly assure the House that he will bring his policy down before the end of the year because that would certainly assist the committee.

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): I would say to the hon. member, as has been stated several times in the House, that the matter is under active consideration by the government and when a decision has been made it will be announced in the House.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Kootenay West.

Mr. Alexander: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. I have been patient in that regard—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I will allow the hon. member a supplementary, but we have only a few minutes left.

Mr. Alexander: Could the minister be more definite in that regard and assure the House that there is a possibility he might have the policy before the House before the end of the year?

Mr. Munro: I would like to accommodate the hon. member, but I cannot add anything further to what I have already said.

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NATIONAL SECURITY

WAR MEASURES ACT—DESTRUCTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS AND FINGERPRINTS OF THOSE RELEASED WITHOUT CHARGE

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Solicitor General. Has any move been made to have the photographs and fingerprints destroyed of the 359 individuals who were arrested under the War Measures Act and released without charge?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General): No, Mr. Speaker, not that I know of.

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[Translation]

SOCIAL SECURITY

ISSUANCE OF INSURANCE CARDS TO NON-CANADIANS

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Labour.

Is he in a position to reply today to the question I directed to him on October 29, and I quote in part:

—whether the Unemployment Insurance Commission has the authority to issue social insurance cards to individuals who are not recognized as Canadians, such as American Army deserters, or to other classes of individuals who have entered Canada illegally?

Mr. Speaker: I think such a question should be put on the order paper. I apologize to the hon. member if, so to speak, I lost the question since it was asked earlier. On thinking it over, however, I think it would be better to put it on the order paper.