

● (1425)

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES

PRIME MINISTER'S TRAVEL ENTOURAGE

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General and concerns butlers and maids.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Boudria: Yesterday the Minister said that the presence of Miss Narcisco, the maid, was required on the Oriental trip because of security requirements on a trip of an extensive nature. In view of the fact that Department of National Defence records indicate that the same person travelled to Quebec City for the Shamrock Summit, can the Minister tell us if he considers Quebec City to be a foreign destination and a very heavy security risk? Or, would he admit that a butler is a butler and a maid is a maid?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Crosbie: And a squalid nuisance is a squalid nuisance.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The Hon. Member has put his question and I hope that all Hon. Members will let the Minister to which it is directed respond.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): We can hardly wait, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. James Kelleher (Solicitor General of Canada): I think, Mr. Speaker, given the world we unfortunately have to cope with today, that no reasonable person would want us to in any way deny all the necessary security arrangements for the head of our state, the Prime Minister.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Blackburn (Brant): He is not the head of state.

BUTLER'S DUTIES

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Prime Minister. Would he put an end to the mystery of the butler and, the maid? Will he tell us who done it? We want to know. No ifs, ands or butlers.

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): You are looking after the baggage, Joe.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): I wonder if I might try to lift the Liberal Party above trivia.

Oral Questions

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Miss MacDonald: That is their Leader's task.

Mr. Crosbie: That is one heck of a job.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): During the trip in question agreement was reached to have Canada become part of the G-7, which had never been done under a Liberal Government. During the trip in question a process was started that resulted in having agriculture considered under GATT, which has never been done before. During the trip in question the Prime Minister took the opportunity to express directly to Korean authorities our concerns about human rights in that country. Those matters might not be important to the Liberal Party and their experts in trivia, but they are important to the people and the future of Canada.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF MALAYSIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I wish to draw the attention of Members to the presence in our gallery of His Excellency Dato Rais Yatim, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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FINANCE

NON-PAYMENT OF CORPORATE INCOME TAX

Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Finance. Can the Minister confirm that in 1983 there were 79,000 corporations in Canada which had a total profit of more than \$13 billion but paid no corporate income tax? Will he also confirm that if these companies had been taxed at the average rate for corporations they would have yielded some \$3 billion—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The Hon. Member must know that questions which require a detailed response of that kind are not appropriate for Question Period. Perhaps the Hon. Member can put his question again.

Mr. Cassidy: Mr. Speaker, will the Minister agree that if corporations that were not taxed had paid tax three years ago, they would have provided \$3 billion in revenue which could have been used to help farmers in western Canada today?

Hon. Tom Hockin (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, I would have to make some inquiries in order to