

*Oral Questions*

given any consideration to shortening the shocking period of delay suffered by veterans under the pension board. These delays are anywhere from 18 months to two years.

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I will certainly give consideration to these representations.

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**OLYMPIC GAMES****STATUE OLYMPIC—INQUIRY AS TO UNVEILING**

**Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the fact that the minister commissioned the Statue Olympic for \$50,000 plus and in view of the fact that the minister does not want to unveil but wants to destroy this \$50,000 so-called masterpiece so that it will be kept from the public eye which I may say, Mr. Speaker, is contrary to a statement made by the Postmaster General, a real stick man, who stick-handled around the whole issue in reply to my question on June 26 on page 7081 of *Hansard*, I would ask on behalf of the taxpayers of this country and members of this House if the minister will produce the Statue Olympic so that the public can judge whether their money was well spent?

**Mr. Mackasey:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

**An hon. Member:** There is no order in question period.

**Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Postmaster General):** The hon. gentleman has paid me a compliment. He talked about my stick-handling, but I can hardly skate as members of the press gallery well know. As Postmaster General, I assume the decision was made prior to my term in office. The cost of the statue the hon. gentleman referred to was not in the order of \$50,000 but of \$8,000 or \$10,000, and when unveiled will no doubt create the same type of controversy as did the Henry Moore sculptures from time to time which some people said had no place in public while others thought they were distinguished pieces of art. Perhaps the same thing will happen when this sculpture is unveiled, perhaps by the hon. gentleman.

● (1200)

**Mr. Paproski:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. When it is unveiled, will the minister advise the House which minister modelled for it, the Postmaster General or the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs?

**Mr. Mackasey:** Mr. Speaker, to answer the second question, it would depend on its dimensions.

**ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

[*English*]

**Mr. Danson:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I should like to refer to another dimension, so to speak. On

[Mr. Brisco.]

July 9 the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton (Mr. Baker) asked a question relating to the purchase of land in LeBreton Flats. I should appreciate an opportunity to answer the question as I believe the matter is very much in the public interest.

On April 1, 1975, the National Capital Commission acquired 11.8 acres on a site on Wellington Street West, Ottawa. The land was assembled by Goldfan-Cadillac-Fairview which was—

**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I understand the minister's desire to make a statement, and I hope he will. But if he makes a statement during the question period he precludes the normal right of reply and questioning. I submit that other hon. members may also be interested. I would be prepared to consent to his making a statement in the normal manner after the question period has ended. I do not think he should make it during the question period.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Minister of State for Urban Affairs (Mr. Danson) requires the unanimous consent of the House to give the information at this time. We are not now in the question period; the question period is over. The information is not being given by way of a statement made by the minister; accordingly, the unanimous consent of the House is necessary if the information is to be given at this time. I take it that unanimous consent is not forthcoming.

**Mr. Danson:** Mr. Speaker, if I may speak on the same point of order, I promised the hon. member an answer in the House. I was attempting to keep my promise but he does not wish me to do so. I will make my statement to the press, just as he made his statement to the press.

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[*Translation*]

**TRANSPORT****TABLING OF REPORT OF INQUIRY INTO FISHING BOAT ACCIDENT ON WEST COAST**

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 41(2), I should like to table bilingual copies of the executive summary of the report on the West Coast fishing vessels casualties inquiry.

[*English*]

**Mr. Speaker:** Statements by ministers.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Now that Your Honour has called for statements by ministers, since the Minister of State for Urban Affairs (Mr. Danson) wanted to make a statement why does he not make it now? Under our new rules it is entirely in Your Honour's hands as to how much time is to be permitted for this. It seems to me that this is the time to do it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.