

Inquiries of the Ministry

the escalation of these terrible incidents, the repetition of which occurred again in Zurich last night?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the Canadian government is deeply shocked and concerned by this further instance of interference with civil aviation by violent action. We strongly condemn such actions which endanger the lives of innocent persons and constitute a grave threat to international travel and communications.

The Canadian government endorses and supports the statement issued yesterday by the Secretary General of the United Nations calling for international action to prevent the recurrence of such events. These attacks are particularly to be deplored for the risk of escalation in the Middle East conflict which they carry, and for the hampering effect they are bound to have upon the efforts of Ambassador Jarring to achieve a peaceful and accepted settlement of the Middle East dispute.

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In the light of the long standing problem in the Middle East and the recent events in Zurich, will the minister say whether a reassessment of Canada's policy with regard to the Middle East is part of our foreign policy review at the present time?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, our policy with respect to the Middle East is, of course, under constant review, because this is a matter of very urgent importance to all countries of the world. We are following events very closely. We are doing all that we can to support the efforts, particularly of the Big Four, to assist in bringing about a settlement. We believe this to be the most effective action we can take at the present time.

[Translation]

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**FRED—PLAN FOR PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Forestry and Rural Development): Mr. Speaker, because it was noisy for a while in the house last Monday, I misunderstood the question asked by the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall), who wanted to know if we were on the point of signing an agreement with the province of Newfoundland in respect of the FRED program.

[Mr. Danson.]

I thought he was referring to Prince Edward Island and I answered that I hope the agreement would be signed within a few weeks. I wish to make it clear that the answer concerned Prince Edward Island and not Newfoundland.

APPLICATION OF PROGRAM TO DEPRIVED AREAS

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Forestry and Rural Development.

Could he tell the house whether his new department intends to limit its program to a few pilot areas in Canada, or to extend it to all the economic regions of every province?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Forestry and Rural Development): Mr. Speaker, we shall help as many as possible with the means and resources at our disposal.

[English]

CRIMINAL CODE**AMENDMENT TO PROHIBIT OFF-TRACK BETTING**

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. Is it the intention of the minister to introduce in this session legislation amending the Criminal Code to prohibit off-track betting?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I discussed this matter with the Attorney General of Ontario, the Attorney General of Saskatchewan and the Deputy Attorney General of British Columbia last week during one of the free periods in the federal-provincial conference. At that time the matter was before the Supreme Court of Canada. The hon. member knows that on Monday afternoon the Supreme Court of Canada dismissed the petition for leave to appeal of the Attorney General of Ontario, without reasons. I have written all the provincial attorneys general asking for their reaction to the stated law as it now exists. On receipt of their replies we will have to consider just what legislative action should be taken.

AMENDMENT TO BAIL PROVISIONS

Mr. J. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice. In view of the difficulties the students in Montreal are having obtaining