

Oral Questions

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, the question is whether the Prime Minister asked me if I had been guilty of any wrongdoing or whether the conduct had been proper. I responded that in my view it had not been in any way illegal. It had, however, been improper, and as a consequence I was tendering my resignation.

INQUIRY WHETHER MR. OUELLET ADMITTED IMPROPER CONDUCT PRIOR TO RESIGNATION

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is for the Prime Minister. Apparently the Prime Minister must have had a conversation with the former minister of consumer and corporate affairs regarding this entire matter, particularly with respect to the resignation of the Minister of Public Works. Did the Prime Minister in fact ask the former minister of consumer and corporate affairs whether he thought his conduct was one of wrongdoing and improper and, if so, what was the answer?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have answered this question before.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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PENITENTIARIES

SAINT JOHN—ALLEGED REFERENCE BY MINISTER TO APPROVAL OF POLICE OF LOCATION OF NEW INSTITUTION—REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION

Mr. Mike Landers (Saint John-Lancaster): My question is for the Solicitor General, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister care to clarify an alleged statement attributed to him in the *Saint John Telegraph Journal* of March 13, 1976 in which he is quoted as saying:

The police department and other groups who had studied the idea—

The reference is to a prison within the Saint John city limits.

—have also come out in favour of the location.

The Solicitor General is alleged to have made that statement in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): That report is incorrect. I said that the chief of police was in favour of the location of the prison in the city in question. But it is also known that the police association has come out against the site. So one part of the police community is for it and the other is against it.

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ANTI-INFLATION BOARD

REQUEST FOR MEASURES TO SPEED UP PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Right Hon. Prime Minister. Since up until yesterday the Anti-Inflation Board had made only 93

decisions and now has a backlog of some 1,000 cases, and since the chairman of the board, when the program was first started, promised decisions within 30 days, can the Prime Minister tell the House and the working people about the procedures the government is taking to speed up the processing of applications before the board so that decisions may be reached more quickly?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will take note of the question on behalf of the minister responsible.

Mr. Nystrom: Would the Prime Minister ask the minister responsible, who is not here today, to make a statement on this issue before Monday when the CLC will present a brief to the cabinet?

Mr. Trudeau: I am sure that if he were to do that it would be made outside the House, and the hon. member would not like that.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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GRAIN

BARLEY—LOSSES RESULTING FROM WIDE SPREAD BETWEEN PRICES FOR TWO GRADES—GOVERNMENT ACTION TO COMPENSATE

Mr. Craig Stewart (Marquette): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board or his parliamentary secretary. However, since they are not present here today, I will direct it to the Acting Minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board. Many farmers are annoyed at the fact that in the 1974-75 crop year when they shipped cars of barley for malting, one car would be graded 2CW and the next, No.1 feed, yet both cars ended up for malting. Then, this year the final payments of 99 cents per bushel for 2CW and 18 cents for No.1 feed were announced. Can the acting minister tell the House what the government plans to do to compensate the farmers for this unrealistic spread in the final payments between 2CW barley and No.1 feed which amounted to losses of \$2,000 per car for many farmers?

Hon. Ron Basford (Acting Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, as the Acting Minister of Transport I will be happy to take notice of the question.

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HUMAN RIGHTS

DATE OF RATIFICATION OF UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Have the necessary arrangements now been put in place between the government of Canada and the provinces so that Canada can ratify the UN Declaration on Human Rights? We were promised a month or six weeks ago that that ratification was imminent.