

miners to remain in the United States until June 30 pending an application for an extension of their residency. Ten families now remain; three plan to leave by the end of this month, and seven families have been granted another extension to the end of September. We have consulted both our consulate in Philadelphia and our embassy in Washington, and our inquiries may have prompted the three month visa extensions granted to the families remaining.

**Mr. Coates:** Is there any possibility of the minister being able to intercede to see that these people are allowed to remain there for the three year period they were guaranteed when they went there to work, because they stated, and I believe the Leader of the Opposition as well as myself—

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

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### ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

#### ALLEGED USE AS STRIKEBREAKERS AGAINST SYDNEY STEELWORKERS

**Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Solicitor General. Is he in a position today to reply to the question I posed last Wednesday concerning the alleged use of members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to visit steelworkers' homes in Sydney and interrogate them regarding a minor labour problem?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, the contract we have with the provinces clearly states that the members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police undertake to enforce provincial legislation. In this case, provincial legislation applies. The members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police must respect their contract as it is drawn.

[English]

**Mr. Muir:** May I ask the minister if he would communicate with the Attorney General's department in Halifax and make sure that the good name of the RCMP is not spoiled by using them for this purpose in the future?

[Translation]

**Mr. Goyer:** I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the attorney general is as anxious as I am to protect the good name of the RCMP.

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[English]

### SHIPPING

#### ALLEGED DANGEROUS PRACTICES ON VESSEL, "WEST STAR"

**Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Is the minister aware of the allegations of potentially dangerous marine safety practices employed on an American

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owned vessel, a flag of convenience vessel, the *West Star*, plying the tourist run from Victoria to Alaska?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** No, Mr. Speaker, but if the hon. member would give me the details I would be glad to look into the matter.

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### CONSUMER AFFAIRS

#### OIL COMPANY PRICE INCREASES—ACTION ON PRICES AND INCOMES COMMISSION REPORT

**Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East):** Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the one I directed earlier to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the fact that the Prices and Incomes Commission report dealing with oil refinery products and indicating a refusal by the oil companies to correct the overbalance has been brought to the attention of the government, can we expect a statement from the minister on what action the government is taking, notwithstanding any bill that the minister may introduce in the future?

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** There were statements made at the time the report was published, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Orders of the day.

● (12:30 p.m.)

### GOVERNMENT ORDERS

#### THE BUDGET

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The House resumed, from Monday, June 28, consideration of the motion of Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance) that this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I extend my apologies for not having noticed that the debate had actually begun. Probably most of us in the House will be happy to hear that it has ended. This debate provides a rather unusual experience for me, because generally speaking when a minister rises in his place in the House it is to talk about some aspect of his own ministerial responsibilities, or perhaps a little more broadly about some aspect of affairs in his own province. It is always a good opportunity when a minister can engage in a debate such as the budget debate, because it enables him to express some views on matters other than those which come directly within his own control.

I have listened to and read a great many of the speeches that have been made during this debate, and it seems to me that the bulk of the argument and the majority of the comments that have been uttered have to do with the raising of the moneys necessary to carry on government business. In fact, the debate has been largely