

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): I was in Prince Edward Island yesterday where I met the premier of the province on several matters including the current recently enacted piece of legislation. I also met a delegation from a committee which has been formed to protest that particular piece of legislation. I said to them, as I have said to the House, that the federal government does not intend to refer the provincial act to the Supreme Court of Canada by way of a reference, and that, if citizens of Prince Edward Island feel that it should be challenged the ordinary courts are available to them. I also said to the citizens committee that the power of disallowance had not been used since 1943.

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Since the practice of disallowance has, for all intents and purposes, gone out of use in recent years, would the Minister of Justice say whether in his discussions with the premier of Prince Edward Island the premier gave any indication that this act might be withdrawn or amended?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Whatever action the premier intends to take, he will make it public in the ordinary way, I would imagine.

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YOUTH

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—REQUEST THAT MINISTER MAKE REPORT TO STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): My question is for the Secretary of State. In view of the questions in the last couple of days with respect to the Opportunity for Youth program, may I ask the Secretary of State, because of the considerable concern and interest in this program, whether he might be prepared to appear, along with the staff responsible for the program, before the Standing Committee on Manpower and Immigration to give a progress report about the program and to reply in detail to many of the concerns and criticisms that have been expressed over the past two or three weeks in order that the program may be implemented with full effectiveness?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, should I be invited to appear before a committee of the House because the committee feels my presentation to be useful, it would not occur to me to elude this appearance. However, I should like to tell the hon. member that as early as tomorrow, on motions, I intend to make a statement on this program which will represent, to a certain extent at least, a report on the present status of the project the hon. member mentioned in his question.

[English]

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I thank the minister for his willingness to make a statement tomorrow. When he makes it would he address himself particularly to the criteria and objectives of the program and

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whether there will be sufficient funds to handle all the worthy projects that have been submitted by the youth of the country?

Mr. Norman A. Cafik (Ontario): As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, when the Secretary of State makes his statement on motions will he indicate to the House whether programs will be fully approved or will some of them be given only partial approval in order to allow the \$15 million allocated to be spread out to cover a greater number of projects?

Mr. Speaker: Order. It seems to me that the question asked by the hon. member and the previous question are in the form of helpful suggestions to the minister. The House must assume that the suggestions will be taken into consideration by the minister. If they are not then hon. members will have an opportunity to ask other questions again tomorrow.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—INVOLVEMENT OF MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, with respect to this program I would like to ask the Secretary of State if it is the policy of the government, as stated by a government official, to keep municipal civil servants from getting involved and, if so, to what programs in other departments does this policy also apply?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, the question surprises me as I have said here repeatedly that any civil servant of whatever level of government could get involved in these projects and contribute as much as possible to them. However, it is clear that if "get involved" means receive a salary from the budget of the project that is excluded, as was moreover clearly stated from the start.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize a last supplementary on this subject. The hon. member for Brandon-Souris.

SUMMER LANGUAGE PROGRAM—ISSUING OF INSTRUCTIONS

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question concerns the summer language program. Have specific instructions been issued to the AUCC which administers this course and, if not, could the hon. gentleman inform us when this information might be going forward?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Unless I am mistaken, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is one year behind our time. Indeed this year, according to the latest news, this project is not administered by the AUCC but by the Council of the Ministers of Education of Canada who have agreed to consider the matter and to advise the department of the Secretary of State as to the way these courses could be organized.