

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Some hon. Members:** Question!

**Mr. Deakon:** I should like to direct this question, if I may, to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

**An hon. Member:** Sock it to him.

**Mr. Deakon:** If you would just keep quiet, I will sock it to him. But I want you to listen.

In view of the numerous requests which I, and, I am sure, many other hon. members, have received from Canadians of Ukrainian and European extraction on behalf of Ukrainians, Poles, Balts and people of other nationalities residing in the Soviet Union, may I ask whether representations have been made to the Soviet Union by the Government of Canada with a view to these nationals being enabled to visit their relatives here, or emigrate to other countries if they so desire?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Deakon:** Will the government make representations on behalf of these minority groups in the Soviet Union and endeavour to achieve a success similar to that achieved as a result of representations made on behalf of the Jewish community?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** I am happy to receive this suggestion from the hon. member. As he and other members of the House know, when the Prime Minister was speaking with Mr. Kosygin he did make representations along those lines, particularly urging the reunification of families, and also commending our own general policy which is practiced in Canada and which we urge upon all countries, namely, to provide for the maximum freedom of emigration. If there are any particular individuals whose cases the hon. member or others have in mind, I would be happy to receive details and pass along those representations to the Soviet government.

[Later:]

RESULTS OF REPRESENTATIONS TO PREMIER KOSYGIN  
CONCERNING VISITORS FROM SOVIET UNION

**Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood):** I wonder whether the Secretary of State for External Affairs has followed up what I understood to be the promise made by Mr. Kosygin when he was in Ottawa that he would speak to the appropriate minister of his own government and expedite the process of enabling visitors, especially family visitors, to go from his country to Canada.

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** It is my understanding that some of these people in respect of whom we did intervene have already left the Soviet Union and have come to Canada. Our ambassador in the Soviet Union is, of course, following up this question from time to time as opportunities present themselves.

[Mr. Deakon.]

## WELFARE

INCREASED PROVINCIAL COSTS RESULTING FROM  
UNEMPLOYMENT—REVISION OF COST-SHARING UNDER  
CANADA ASSISTANCE PLAN

**Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe):** Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of reports by Statistics Canada on provincial government finance which show that provincial expenditures on social welfare aid to unemployed and unemployables have risen by more than 50 per cent in two years, can the hon. gentleman say what action is being taken with respect to provincial requests for immediate revision of the cost-sharing arrangements under the Canada Assistance Plan?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Our position is that the 50-50 cost-sharing arrangement under the Canada Assistance Plan is a satisfactory one at the present date.

**An hon. Member:** What a cough! When are you going to quit smoking?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Since we have almost reached the end of the question period, perhaps I might try to recognize members who had supplementary questions to ask.

**Mr. Marshall:** Mr. Speaker, I wanted to ask your permission for the minister to complete his answer to my question.

**Mr. Speaker:** He had the permission of the Chair, but he appeared to be unable to continue his answer.

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## AIR TRANSPORT

USE OF SECURITY GUARDS ON PLANES—POSITION OF  
AIRLINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION

**Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East):** My supplementary is in a very serious vein and it is directed to the Minister of Transport. Would the minister not care to correct an earlier reply with respect to a decision not to use in-flight safety precautions because they had not been recommended to him by CALPA?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** I do not think that is what I said. If I did make a mistake, I welcome the opportunity afforded me of correcting it. What I said, or meant to say, was that it was a decision of the Government of Canada not to use armed guards on all our airplanes. This decision was made public the best part of a year ago. It had the concurrence at that time of the Canadian Airline Pilots Association. They have not since that time indicated any change of attitude. I said they met yesterday. They are going to make other recommendations which I have not received as yet. Whether those recommendations will involve a change of view on their part, I cannot say.

• (3:00 p.m.)

**Mr. Forrestall:** Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary question in order to clarify this point once and for all.