Inquiries of the Ministry

would look into the matter and would also advise whether or not the request of the British Columbia legislature would receive attention.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of National Defence perhaps I could take notice of that inquiry, follow up the question of the remaining Jericho Beach properties and report to the right hon. member.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, after all, just a month has gone by since the question was asked. It is a matter of great importance to the people of Vancouver. They want to know whether this is going to be a big melon or pork barrel operation. Will the minister let me have an answer as to what the government intends to do—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Diefenbaker: —without putting it off again in this manner?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway.

Mrs. MacInnis: I have a question-

Mr. Diefenbaker: Surely, Mr. Speaker-

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I apologize to the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway. I believe the right hon. gentleman wishes to ask a supplementary, or perhaps he is rising on a point of order.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I had asked a question. I have found the minister usually very loquacious and alway willing to answer. I repeat that this is a matter of deep concern. I ask him whether any decision has been made by the government and, if not, why not?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, the reason I did not respond was that I understood the right hon. gentleman had been ruled out of order. I would just point out to him that a decision was taken several years ago and arrangements made with the city of Vancouver whereby a portion of the Jericho Beach property, that closest to the water, would be made available for public park purposes and the balance of the property would be rezoned and would be available for disposal by the Crown in consideration of the Department of National Defence moving its operations from Jericho Beach to Chilliwack. As to the actual status of this matter now, I have not been following with the same active interest in the last several weeks as I was previously matters within the responsibility of the Department of National Defence, but I will endeavour to find out the current status of the matter for the right hon. gentleman.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Please do, because it looks like a pork barrel.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): You ought to know. [Mr. Diefenbaker.]

WELFARE

BRITISH COLUMBIA LEGISLATION LIMITING PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE— REQUEST FOR FEDERAL ACTION

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Last week in reply to my question the minister promised to look into British Columbia's Bill 49 which gives complete power to the provincial welfare minister to decide who shall get social assistance in the province and who shall not and which wipes out any chance of appeal. I should like to ask the minister again whether this bill violates the terms of the Canada Assistance Plan which declares that anyone in need shall be eligible for social assistance? Has he looked into the matter and determined whether this is the case?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have looked into the matter. I am still waiting for independent legal advice from an officer of the Crown as to whether, from a strictly legal point of view, this bill contravenes the Canada Assistance Plan. I hope to have that advice by the end of the week.

Mrs. MacInnis: I should like to ask what steps the minister would propose in the meantime to ensure that people in British Columbia who are in need receive social assistance?

Mr. Munro: Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, the bill has not yet been passed by the British Columbia legislature. I have had no complaints of specific cases where social assistance has been denied as a result of the recent action taken by the British Columbia government.

IMMIGRATION

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COMPLAINTS BY TORONTO POLICE ABOUT DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING DEPORTATION ORDERS

Mr. Stanley Haidasz (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Acting Minister of Manpower and Immigration whether he has knowledge of complaints by the Toronto police that they have to ask for extradition orders in order to deal with unwanted immigrants because it is impossible to get deportation orders from the immigration authorities?

Hon. Martin P. O'Connell (Acting Minister of Manpower and Immigration): No, Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of that situation but I shall inquire and give an answer to the hon. member.

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GRAIN

PROVISION OF ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY POINTS FOR FARMERS FOLLOWING SALE OF FEDERAL GRAIN LTD. TO WHEAT POOLS

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the minister responsible for the Wheat