Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Trudeau: I can only repeat, Mr. Speaker, what I have said. The two charters will not be merged into a single one; there is no question of putting into the charter of human rights, which shall be discussed at the federal-provincial conference, the consumer charter or even elements of it. I have already explained why.

[English]

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNEMPLOYED TO IMPROVE TECHNICAL SKILLS

Mr. John L. Skoberg (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, in view of the answer received from the Minister of Manpower and Immigration on January 21, in which he indicated that no additional funds would be allocated for vocational training in technical schools, I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether, having in mind his statement that with the elimination of the municipal winter works program additional funds would be provided for the upgrading of such technical schools as require it, he would now agree that there should be funds allotted for such a purpose, particularly because of the urgency connected with this situation?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member's question is argumentative.

Mr. Skoberg: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I do believe there is real urgency and I did not intend any argumentative purpose in asking the question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I cannot interpret the hon. member's intention, I can only interpret the question.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

TORONTO-HOLDING OF INDIAN GIRL IN JAIL

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct this question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. On December 17 I asked him a question regarding an Indian girl who had been incarcerated in Don jail. He replied that he would investigate this matter and report to the house. Is he now ready to do so?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, the minister was called to an urgent meeting. I will bring this matter to his attention and endeavour to have some kind of reply for the hon. member shortly.

[Mr. Fortin.]

ROYAL CANADIAN MINT

SIMILARITY BETWEEN NICKELS AND QUARTERS—REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF SHAPE

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. I ask him whether, because of the irritation of the public and the confusion caused by the fact that the present issues of quarters and nickels are almost identical, any consideration has been given to changing the shape of either of these coins.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have some doubt whether this is a matter of urgency, but perhaps because of the interest in the question I will allow the minister to reply.

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Not at the present time, Mr. Speaker.

TRADE

POTATOES—TRADE COMMISSION TO SEEK MARKETS

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. I wonder whether, in view of the very large volume of potatoes still in storage and the continuing depressed market with regard, particularly, to potato stock and seed potatoes, the minister or his department has received a request for the establishment of a special trade commission to seek out new markets overseas for seed potatoes. If so, is the minister giving consideration to mounting such a trade commission?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, no such commission has been set up in the past. I have not received a request. I shall inquire whether the department has, and we will do our best to help in this matter.

ATLANTIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

REPLACEMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Mr. Louis-Roland Comeau (South Western Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Forestry and Rural Development, but in his absence I direct it to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the term of office of the chairman of the Atlantic Development Board has expired, would the Prime Minister say whether a replacement has been made; and if not, what is the position of the board now?