

*Inquiries of the Ministry***YOUTH****ALLEGED FREE BUS TRANSPORTATION FOR TRANSIENTS—
CONSIDERATION OF PROGRAM BY HOUSE**

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): I wish to direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister in connection with the youth program. When the \$50 million youth program, which includes provision for a fleet of 25 buses to carry young transients across the country without charge, is finalized, will this matter be brought before the House for consideration?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): As far as I know, Mr. Speaker, these are purely speculative stories to which the hon. member is referring.

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REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION**MONTREAL—APPLICATION BY CITY UNDER AMENDED
INCENTIVES ACT**

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Are any applications pending or currently in the process of being approved from the city of Montreal under the recent amendments to the Regional Development Incentives Act?

Mr. Speaker: I think that a question of that kind should be in writing and placed on the Order Paper. I doubt whether it is in order to ask of a minister from day to day whether applications have been received from different regions affected by the law. I think it would be better if this question were put in writing but if there is urgency, the hon. member may give the usual notice to discuss the matter at the time of adjournment.

Mr. McGrath: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, my question was prompted by the urgency of the unemployment situation in Montreal which originally prompted the amendments to the Act.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That, of course, is not a point of order. The hon. member is arguing the urgency of the matter. The Standing Order is designed to cover this type of situation. If the hon. member thinks there is urgency, his recourse is to suggest that the matter be considered at the time of adjournment.

Mr. McGrath: I accept your Honour's invitation.

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YOUNG OFFENDERS ACT**SUGGESTED WITHDRAWAL OF LEGISLATION FOR
REDRAFTING**

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): I have a question for the Acting Prime Minister. Since the Canadian Mental Health Association has validly and seriously attacked the fundamentals of the young offenders bill, C-192, and since a new minister is occupying the portfolio con-

[Mr. Lang.]

cerned, will the government consider withdrawing the bill in order that it might be redrafted more in line with common sense?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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AGRICULTURE**ACTION TO CONTROL OUTBREAK OF RABIES IN
WESTERN PROVINCES**

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): In the absence of the Minister of Agriculture I will direct my question to his Parliamentary Secretary. It is in connection with the current outbreak of rabies in western Canada. What measures is the federal Department of Agriculture undertaking to counteract and control the current outbreak of rabies that is affecting the western provinces?

Mr. Marcel Lessard (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture): I thank the hon. member for his question. I will bring the matter to the minister's attention. I hope a proper answer can be provided on Thursday.

Mr. Mazankowski: Is the federal government prepared to provide full compensation to the owners for the loss of any animals caused by contracting this disease?

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

[Translation]

GOVERNMENT ORDERS**PENSION ACT AND CIVILIAN WAR PENSIONS AND
ALLOWANCES ACT****PROVISION OF INCREASES IN BENEFITS**

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Veterans Affairs): moved that Bill C-203, to amend the Pension Act and the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, just over a year ago I had the privilege of making public a white paper on veterans pensions, setting forth the views of the government on the recommendations of the Woods Committee for amending the Pension Act. The white paper was extremely well received, both by veterans and the general public. I am delighted to be speaking at this time on a bill designed to incorporate into the Pension Act almost all of the proposals we made in the white paper. Some have been amended, some have been expanded and several have been enriched.

On December 2 last, this bill was tabled in the House for first reading. It was most satisfying to read in the press the next day that the National Association of Veterans Organizations had expressed its satisfaction with