

Inquiries of the Ministry

respecting the assault occasioning bodily harm? Was that alleged assault committed before or after the Norris report?

Mr. Chevrier: The alleged date is some time in 1957.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Has this not been outlawed by effluxion of time? Why not a more recent charge?

Mr. Chevrier: The two special counsel who were appointed were to deal with the Norris report; and the offences under the Norris report, as they were reported to me by the special counsel, dealt in particular with two offences, one of them committed in August 1957 and the other in 1960. My statement dealt in part with that and in part with other offences.

Hon. Leon Balcer (Three Rivers): I wonder if the minister can tell us whether there will be a prosecution following the beating up of an elderly couple in my own riding of Three Rivers last year.

Mr. Chevrier: As the hon. member knows, the two counsel who have been appointed are to deal with all the offences, and the matter is under investigation by them.

UNITED NATIONSCANADIAN ABSTENTION IN VOTE ON RACIAL
DISCRIMINATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Queens): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs and concerns the Canadian delegation to the United Nations general assembly. Can the minister advise if our delegation abstained on the third committee resolution against racial discrimination, and the reasons for our abstention?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, we did abstain in the committee on this resolution because of certain clauses in the resolution which involved matters that are not within the jurisdiction of this parliament.

FLOUR

REQUEST FOR INQUIRY INTO PRICE INCREASES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. Nasserden (Rosthern): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. Would he be able to inquire into the reasons for the

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

recent substantial increases in the price of flour and report to the house in that regard?

OLD AGE SECURITYREPORTED TAKING OF PENSION INCREASE
BY HOMES FOR AGED

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of reports of homes for the aged in Ontario and in Manitoba taking most or all of the \$10 pension increase recently provided by parliament in higher rents, will the government see what can be done to protect our old age pensioners against this practice?

Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Minister of National Health and Welfare): As my hon. friend knows, the federal government in bringing about the increase in the old age pension had hoped it would be passed to the pensioners to alleviate some of their need. It has been disturbing to notice in the last couple of days that in various provinces this amount is not being passed to the pensioners. While this decision appears to lie within provincial jurisdiction, my hon. friend may be assured that whatever can be done will be done by the federal government to encourage the passing on of this money to the pensioners.

Mr. Knowles: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister ascertain whether any of these homes are homes which have been built with financial aid from federal sources?

Hon. J. R. Garland (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. gentleman would permit me to reply to that particular aspect of his question.

Mr. Knowles: Delighted.

Mr. Garland: I noticed this item in the newspaper today, and I rather suspected there would be inquiries. I am happy to tell my hon. friend that the Fairview project is a senior citizens' home and is not one in which Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation of the federal government is involved financially or otherwise. As the house is aware, we have taken steps to see that no increases are to be brought into effect for elderly citizens as a result of the increased pension in any housing projects over which C.M.H.C. has control of the rents. This refers to limited dividend projects and to public housing projects in which there are elderly citizens.