

*Inquiries of the Ministry***CITIZENSHIP****ALLEGED INTERFERENCE BY CIVIL SERVANTS IN JUDGES' DECISIONS—SPECIAL STATUS FOR BRITISH SUBJECTS**

Mr. Gaétan-J. Serré (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the minister responsible for citizenship I should like to direct my question to the Prime Minister. Following charges yesterday by a citizenship court judge to the effect that senior civil servants attempt in some instances to influence decisions on citizenship applications and the British subjects are given additional special status by Ottawa officials, would the Prime Minister tell the House what his reactions are to these charges and whether he would ask the minister responsible to conduct a personal inquiry into the matter?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the second part of the question is in order, but the hon. member cannot ask what the Prime Minister's reaction was to the circumstances to which he has alluded. The Prime Minister might reply to the second part of the hon. member's question.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker, the subject was drawn to my attention before coming into the House and I have ascertained that the minister will do what the hon. member suggested. He will look into the matter, make an inquiry and report to the House as soon as possible, perhaps even tomorrow when he will be in the House. Could I be allowed to answer a question asked yesterday, Mr. Speaker?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There is no difficulty whatsoever about the Prime Minister answering a question asked yesterday. A suggestion was made by a member of the cabinet the other day that the Chair does not allow ministers to take the initiative to reply to questions asked previously. What I have objected to from time to time is that a minister, while he has the floor, replies to a prior question without allowing a supplementary. However, since there is no supplementary at this time it is quite in order for the Prime Minister to seek permission of the House and of the Chair in order to reply to a prior or previous question.

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BILINGUALISM AND BICULTURALISM**REQUEST FOR TABLING CORRESPONDENCE CONCERNING CONCLUSION OF COMMISSION'S WORK**

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I was asked a series of questions yesterday concerning the B and B commission and I wish to refer particularly to the question concerning the exchange of correspondence between myself and members of the commission. I did look into it and I can report to the House there was no further exchange of correspondence beyond that already tabled in the House on March 17, which corresponded pretty directly to the type of question asked by the hon.

[Mr. Trudeau.]

member for York South. That was tabled on March 17 and I have not been able to find any further correspondence.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary. Did the Prime Minister not get a letter from one of the commissioners, Professor J. B. Rudnykyj, dated March 16 in which he made certain recommendations to the Prime Minister, and would the Prime Minister be prepared to table that letter?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I cannot remember having received such a letter but I will look into it and if I have I will see if it can be tabled.

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GRAIN**WHEAT—PREVIOUS LOANS UNDER CASH ADVANCE PROGRAM—DATE MONEY AVAILABLE IN CURRENT CROP YEAR**

Mr. R. R. Southam (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the substantial changes being made in the cash advance program for the 1971-72 crop year, when will the minister be in a position to announce what the situation is regarding previous loans, and the date cash advances will be available in the current crop year?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, if there are to be substantial changes in the cash advances program I am sure that my colleague, the minister from Saskatchewan, after taking that into account will announce whatever changes are necessary to take care of the advances that are outstanding now.

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NATIONAL PARKS**ELK ISLAND—ANIMAL STARVATION—FAILURE OF WILDLIFE SERVICE TO DIRECT REDUCTION IN ELK POPULATION COMMENSURATE WITH FEED SUPPLIES**

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I have a question I wish to direct to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development who is supposed to be here today, but in his absence I will direct it to the acting minister or to his parliamentary secretary. It has to do with the starvation of elk and other animal wildlife in Elk Island National Park. In view of what has transpired there, can the parliamentary secretary indicate whether the department is looking into the operations of the Canadian Wildlife Service, which serves the parks administration in an advisory capacity, to determine why a directive was not issued recommending a fall reduction in the elk population commensurate with available feed supplies?

Mr. Speaker: Order. It seems to me that this kind of question might be placed on the order paper. I am not