

actively involved for the past three years in experimenting with propane, gasohol, and now, in this program, methanol fuels. System maintenance and repair, as well as supervisory staff, will be using the methanol test cars. The cars will only be used in Winnipeg where special methanol fuel is available.

The Manitoba Telephone System has shown leadership in this field, and on behalf of my colleagues in the House of Commons I would like to congratulate the Manitoba Telephone System on its fine and outstanding efforts.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

DISAPPEARANCE OF MURDER SUSPECT AFTER RELEASE ON BAIL

Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Madam Speaker, like many Canadians, not the least of them Ontario's Attorney General Roy McMurtry, I am incensed over the release on bail of a man charged with paralysing an 18 year-old girl for life. Indeed, the suspect, one Clive Brown, age 19 of Mississauga, faces charges of forcible confinement, armed robbery, attempted murder, and using firearms.

An 18-year-old Becker's Milk Store employee, Barbara Turnbull, was shot in the throat during a \$200 robbery. The spinal cord damage that Ms. Turnbull suffered will leave her paralysed from the neck down for the rest of her life. So what does Brampton provincial court judge Kenneth Langdon do last week? He releases Clive Brown on \$40,000 bail, on condition that he show up at Clarkson Secondary School in Mississauga. He did not show up, and has not been heard from since. He is not at home, not at school, and the judge says, "I don't know where he is".

I say, on behalf of every law-abiding Canadian, Madam Speaker, that I am thoroughly disgusted with a judicial system which lets a known criminally-minded individual out on the loose again after committing such a horrible, senseless crime for 200 bucks. I join the Peel Regional Police Force and the Attorney General of Ontario in opposing this disgusting release of an attempted murderer. Because of that punk, Barbara is ruined for life. Her assailant is free, and the Crown Prosecutor says he does not know where he is. Where, in the name of heaven, is there justice in this country for innocent people like Barbara Turnbull?

• (1115)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

FINANCE

TRUST COMPANIES' RESTRICTIONS ON RENEWAL OF MORTGAGES

Mr. Bill Kempling (Burlington): Madam Speaker, my question was to be directed to the Minister of Consumer and

Oral Questions

Corporate Affairs, but I will ask it of the Minister of Finance. It is with regard to approximately 750,000 Canadians who are locked into high interest rate mortgages. This matter was first raised in the Speech from the Throne in 1980. Since that time six Ministers of the Government have played with the problem, two Ministers of Finance, two Ministers of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, and two Ministers who report for CMHC. All of them have clawed the air and implied through their replies, inside and outside the House, that they would do something about it, but nothing substantive has happened in three and one half years.

Yesterday the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, after stating that she would seek an amendment to the Interest Act, informed the Hon. Member for Oshawa that—

Madam Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Kempling:—mortgages—all right.

Madam Speaker: I really must interrupt the Hon. Member. He has not come to a question and he has already taken three minutes of his time.

Mr. Kempling: She informed the Hon. Member that trust companies were under provincial legislation.

Madam Speaker: No, no, I really meant the Hon. Member had to ask his question immediately.

Mr. Kempling: What does the Minister propose to do about some of our trust companies which put clauses in their mortgage agreements that require mortgagors to waive their rights under Section 10 of the Canada Interest Act and other federal-provincial acts dealing with the prepayment of mortgage contracts?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, this is indeed a very long question, and I contest the allegations contained in the preamble. I would start, first of all, by answering the preamble, and then I will address the question.

As far as the preamble is concerned, the Hon. Member is quite wrong. We have taken a number of steps to help Canadians who were caught with high mortgages. One of the steps, for instance, cost the federal Treasury \$75 million in help to Canadian consumers. That was the Canada Mortgage Renewal Plan that the Minister of Public Works introduced to help those who were facing difficulties in renewing their mortgages when the interest rates were quite high. The Hon. Member will remember that at that time the federal Government was giving up to \$3,000 in subsidies for mortgage renewal. That program has been used by tens of thousands of Canadians and it helped them at a very, very difficult time.

In addition, when it comes to current renewal at lower rates, as the Hon. Member knows I have provided Members of Parliament with a list of senior officials in all the banks and trust companies in Canada to which representations could be made on behalf of constituents. I, myself, have made representations on behalf of constituents and Members of Parliament,