

Inquiries of the Ministry

his department which leaves tomorrow for a three week visit to Bermuda, the Bahamas, Jamaica, Trinidad and Barbados?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for his question. The question was also put to me by one of my colleagues, and I am trying to ascertain the answer.

PENITENTIARIES**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL—REQUEST FOR TOUR BY MEMBERS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice and ask the minister whether he would be kind enough to arrange, as early as possible and for as many members who may desire to participate, a tour of St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary so that all members may have a chance to see at first hand the deplorable conditions which exist there.

Hon. Guy Favreau (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I think I succeeded in arranging a pretty successful tour the other day for the hon. member for Skeena. As to his question this morning, I will give it consideration.

KINGSTON, ONT.—INQUIRY AS TO NEW CONSTRUCTION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. S. J. Enns (Portage-Neepawa): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Justice. Has a final decision yet been taken on the construction of the proposed new complex of buildings for penitentiary facilities at Kingston? If this has not yet been done, will he make plans to assure that he will get the most knowledgeable advice on the design and structure of these new buildings?

Hon. Guy Favreau (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, as to the first part of the question I must say that a final decision as to the exact nature of the complex and as to the plans has not yet been made by myself. With regard to the obtaining of advice, I must say that already specialist consultants from the United States have given their advice on the matter of plans and designs, but I repeat that as far as I am concerned I have yet to make my final decision thereon.

Mr. Enns: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Does the minister intend to allow [Mr. Crouse.]

a parliamentary committee to have a look at the plans and inspect them? Is there going to be an opportunity to do this?

Mr. Favreau: I am seriously considering the question of a parliamentary committee on the matter of prisons and penitentiaries.

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland): May I ask a supplementary question. In view of the fact that according to the newspapers tenders have closed for the new penal institution at Springhill and there is an indication that there will be a delay of some six weeks before treasury board can approve the low bidder's contract, I wonder if the minister could look into this in the hope of speeding up the process of investigating these tenders and making an award at an earlier date.

Mr. Favreau: I will, Mr. Speaker.

INDUSTRY**BELLEVILLE, ONT.—STEPS TO PREVENT CLOSING OF FACTORY**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. A. Webb (Hastings-Frontenac): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry but in his absence I will direct it to the acting minister. What steps have been taken or what steps are contemplated to prevent the closing later this month of the International Precision Company at Belleville, Ontario, thereby making it necessary—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Webb: —for some 70 skilled craftsmen to seek new employment?

Mr. Speaker: Order. This is a question for the order paper.

Mr. Webb: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, this is a very urgent question because later this month this plant will be closed and these men will be out of work.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Webb: What is going to be done about it? That is the question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. If I am not mistaken this question has been asked two or three times before.

Mr. Webb: I should like to give notice to debate this matter at the first opportunity.

TRANSPORTATION**PROPOSED REDUCTION IN C.P.R. SERVICE IN WESTERN CANADA**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. A. Olson (Medicine Hat): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to