

*Oral Questions*

that their second quarter funding will be granted even though they may not have had time to enter appeals, since the July deadline will soon be here.

**Mr. Buchanan:** Mr. Speaker, I do not think there are difficulties in those areas. A couple of days ago I was talking with the president of the Alberta Indian Association, in the hon. member's own province. He said, "Look, there have been a few difficulties but we are getting them ironed out, and there is no problem." I suggest that is the attitude everywhere except in the one province.

JAMES SMITH RESERVE—ALLEGATION NATIVES REFUSED  
SUPPORT FOR THEIR CHILDREN UNLESS LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES SIGNED

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, following on the question which has just been asked, may I remind the minister of the reply he gave me on June 4, as reported on page 6429 of *Hansard*, when he said that the Indians were not being coerced or forced in any way. I immediately challenged that statement, because in the province of Saskatchewan and on the particular Indian reserve to which I referred then, the James Smith reserve, the Indians have been refused support for their children unless they sign these guidelines and accept them. That does not look very much like the kind of co-operation which should be expected between the government, untied by bureaucratic autocracy, and the representatives of the Indians.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Surely, the right hon. member realizes that he is entering into debate instead of asking a question. If the right hon. member has a question to ask, perhaps he will ask it.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, I find it impossible to impinge on the mentality of the Indian department with an ordinary question. I ask this: Considering what has happened on this particular Indian reserve and on others, where people are being forced to accept guidelines they don't want, will the minister do something at once to bring about support for the children, the boys and girls on these reserves, so that they will have the necessary food; for starvation faces them because they dared to stand for a principle.

**Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, with respect, that simply is not fact. All I have to say is that Chief Ahenakew, the president of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians, and the right hon. member's good friend, the vice president, Solomon Sanderson, indicated that they would like to meet with me before July 1 and finally come forward with some concrete suggestions for the guidelines. I indicated that I would be happy to meet them.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs, the Indian Association of Alberta and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians are opposed to these guidelines. Why should they, the first people of our country, be intimidated in this way when they are actually wards of the Queen and so regard themselves to be? Will the minister endeavour to break himself loose

[Mr. Malone.]

from the enthrallment of bureaucratic tyranny being practiced against the Indians?

**Mr. Buchanan:** Mr. Speaker, as far as the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs is concerned, they are off on a different tack right now. I have had no representations or expressions from British Columbia concerning the guidelines. As you know, they indicated they wish to reject federal government funding totally. In the province of Alberta, as I indicated, I spoke a couple of days ago to the president of the Alberta Indian Association. He gave me a reply directly contrary to what the right hon. member just said. I have already indicated what is going on in Saskatchewan.

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[Translation]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF INDUSTRIES ON THE SOUTH SHORE OF THE ST. LAWRENCE TO RELIEVE UNEMPLOYMENT

**Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

Since the province of Quebec has a very important area which is known generally as the south shore region, part of which includes the Bellechasse riding, and since there are a great many unemployed in this area, can the minister advise the House whether he has had consultations with the Quebec government about a possible program to attract new industries or expand existing ones in the area, in order to create jobs and find use for the qualified workers who are available there at this time?

[English]

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, personally, in a general way, I have discussed the region of Quebec to which the hon. member refers along with a number of others where developmental opportunities are important. As well, I know that my officials, including those who are resident in the province of Quebec and in Quebec City, have also been discussing these matters with the provincial government. I do not immediately know the current stage of those discussions. I will be pleased to make inquiries and get an up-to-date report for the hon. member.

[Translation]

**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary. Without wanting to give to understand that the federal and Quebec governments showed greater interest in the Montreal and Quebec City regions, I should like to insist on asking him whether he is willing, as the person in charge of regional economic expansion, to make representations, if necessary, to the government of the province of Quebec for the establishment of a very specific program in the south shore region so that for once the population of that region will not feel neglected and may in its turn receive benefits and aid enabling it to expand and use the manpower available in the region?