

Mr. Trudeau: You have a good supporter now.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I appreciate that hon. members seem to be enjoying themselves, but a number of others are anxious for an opportunity to ask questions. Therefore we might try to proceed with greater celerity.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, there is no hilarity that is on the other side of the House. Today they are disturbed by the Rock incident. Is it the minister's considered opinion that this document will be produced in the House, in view of the fact he has stated that in any event when the trial takes place it will be available? It should therefore be made available to the House.

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I think the right hon. member, as a well known protector of civil liberties, would feel that I ought to consult with those who will be prosecuting in order to find out whether it would in any way interfere with the course of justice. If I am satisfied it does not, I am sure I will be able to satisfy the right hon. member.

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PUBLIC SERVICE

POLICY RESPECTING LEAVE FOR EMPLOYEES WISHING TO BE CANDIDATES IN FEDERAL ELECTION—REFUSAL OF LEAVE AND SUSPENSION OF ANN BOOTH

Mr. John M. Reid (Kenora-Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State. Is it the policy of the government to permit those federal civil servants who wish to present themselves as candidates in the forthcoming federal election the privilege of taking leave from the public service, as was the case during the last provincial election?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, this question does not fall within my jurisdiction. It should be put to my colleague the President of the Treasury Board, or to the Chairman of the Public Service Commission.

[English]

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. May I put the same question to the Prime Minister and add a supplementary to it. Would the Prime Minister look into the case of a Miss Ann Booth who has been refused leave to seek a nomination and has been suspended today by the Public Service Commission?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Prime Minister. While he is making this investigation will he also see whether or not some of the former drop-outs might be expected back after the next election?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I seek the assistance and co-operation of hon. members to reduce the number of supplementaries, and also points of order, so that we may

Inquiries of the Ministry

proceed to the end of the question period and allow as many members as possible to ask questions.

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AGRICULTURE

INCREASE IN FEED GRAIN SUBSIDY—EXCLUSION OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture who, according to the iniquitous roster system, should be here today. I should like to ask why Prince Edward Island was excluded from the list of provinces for which Canadian Livestock Feed Board subsidies for feed grain are to be increased, and has the minister received any indication of when this egregious oversight will be corrected?

Mr. Marcel Lessard (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I will take this question as notice and speak to the minister about it, and if there is any information I will report back to the House.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS

FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE—INQUIRY AS TO INCREASE

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. Now that the government has the authority, either by regulation or by order in council, to raise the amount of the federal minimum wage, may I ask whether consideration is being given to doing this, particularly in light of the recent increases in the cost of living?

• (1450)

Hon. Martin P. O'Connell (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, the minimum wage is constantly under review and if a change is to be made it will be announced in due course.

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CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

DISPUTE WITH NABET—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State. I asked him last week if he had anything to report to the House on the continuing guerilla warfare between the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and NABET in respect of CBC problems. On his return from the west he said he had not had a chance to check. Would he tell the House now what the present status is of this dispute?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I have followed these developments, but the situation is so fluid that if I made a report now, it might prove absolutely