

serious crash near Miami airport allegedly caused by birds?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, this is something I brought to the attention of the department. All new evidence will have to be considered. In the meantime, those responsible for the construction of the stockyard will have to put up a bond of \$50,000 in order to give us a guarantee that they will take steps to see that birds attracted to it will not cause any danger for aircraft.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

INQUIRY AS TO REINTRODUCTION OF YOUNG OFFENDERS BILL

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General. Is it the intention of the Solicitor General to reintroduce the young offenders bill this session and, if so, will there be substantial changes in the philosophy and procedures it envisaged?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, as a result of the committee hearings in the last parliament my department is examining the young offenders bill in consultation with the Attorneys General of the different provinces. Once this consultation is completed we will announce our intention. Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I may answer a question that was put to me yesterday, since I am already on my feet.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps I will recognize the minister at the end of the question period for that purpose.

Mr. Gilbert: In view of the fact that representatives of social agencies and government officials indicated at the committee hearings in the last session that there was an urgent need for diagnostic and related services for the treatment of young offenders, has the Solicitor General taken any steps to consult with provincial officials to try to remedy this situation?

• (1200)

Mr. Allmand: It is on that very point that we are progressing to discussions with the provinces, Mr. Speaker. These services are under the jurisdiction of the provinces and we want to do what we can with them to improve the situation.

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VETERANS AFFAIRS

EFFECTS OF INCARCERATION ON PRISONERS OF WAR— POSSIBLE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. I draw to his attention the report of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs of last June in which recommendations were made with regard to studies on the effects of incarceration on European theatre prisoners

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of war and also the question of the relaxation of some requirements of the War Veterans Allowance Act with regard to prisoners of war in the European theatre. Could the minister tell the House what has been done in this connection?

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, in reply may I say this question is now under study by my department.

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PUBLIC SERVICE

WITHDRAWAL OF FORCED EARLY RETIREMENT REGULATION

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice. Has the government withdrawn the regulation which allowed deputy department heads to retire public servants prior to the normal retirement age of 65?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I would have to take that question as notice and respond to the hon. member in due course.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order based on the fact that the President of the Treasury Board publicly stated that this regulation had been withdrawn. I should like to ask the President of the Treasury Board if that is not so and, if it is, why does the Minister of Justice not know about it?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, it is correct that the regulation has been withdrawn, but I do not think that was the nature of the question directed to the Minister of Justice.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I am not going to stand here and have the President of the Treasury Board imply that the question I asked him was not the same question I asked the Minister of Justice. It is the same question. Supplementary to that first question, is there authority which would allow for the forced early retirement of employees under federal jurisdiction? Is there such a provision still contained in any regulation or any legislation?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am not sure whether that is a point of order. The hon. member may be asking a supplementary—

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I indicated that it was a supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. My impression was that the hon. member was asking a supplementary point of order. In any event, we might allow the minister to reply to the hon. member's supplementary question.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Speaker, there are provisions under which public servants can be retired prior to the customary retirement age of 65.