

Oral Questions

rather hear the facts by speaking to the person directly than by going by newspaper reports.

PROPOSAL TO EXAMINE CMHC CAPITAL SPENDING BUDGET
IN COMMITTEE—MINISTER'S POSITION

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Given the intensified criticisms of present policies of CMHC which are being voiced at the provincial level right across this country, will the minister now say when he intends to fulfil his commitment to bring the capital spending budget of CMHC before the standing committee so that that corporation's policies, which are causing such consternation at the provincial level, can be examined in detail? Is he not prepared to tell us when he will fulfil his commitment?

Hon. Barney Danson (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I am looking forward to appearing before the committee and discussing everything as openly as possible, including the capital budget.

* * *

[Translation]

SOCIAL SECURITY

CANADA PENSION PLAN—DATE OF NAMING ADDITIONAL
MEMBERS TO COMMISSION

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the minister of National Health and Welfare.

Could he tell us when additional members will be appointed to the pension plan appeal commission and does he know that there is no co-operation from Quebec for the operation of that Commission? In addition, does he know that Quebec having appointed its own Board is demanding the return of any Quebec file connected with the operation of the appeal Commission?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I hope that the members will be appointed in the very near future. I must point out to the hon. member that there have been constant consultations with the Quebec government on the matter during the past year and that the developments up to now are in accordance with the spirit of the provincial and federal legislation.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary.

Is the minister stating to the House that the province of Quebec has the right, under the federal act and pursuant to the agreement passed between Canada and Quebec on that matter, to take away any record and set a jurisdiction that is complementary and perhaps divergent at the Canadian level? What are the rights of Canadians and Quebecers in each jurisdiction?

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member certainly does not expect me to give a legal opinion to the House on the respective rights of the two levels of government in that field.

[Mr. Danson.]

[English]

PUBLIC SERVICE

INQUIRY WHETHER PROSECUTION OF ILLEGAL STRIKERS
WILL EXTEND TO UNION OFFICIALS

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the President of the Treasury Board. In its consideration of criminal court action against members of designated groups in the recent blue collar strike, has the Treasury Board decided whether there should also be action against PSAC higher ups who planned to put the designated groups on the picket lines, or will the law only be applied to "Joe Lunchpail"? I was going to say "Joseph Boardroom", but I will say to union brass.

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (President of Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, we apply the act as it is written and we prosecute all those who have infringed it. Does it include union officials? I do not know, I do not think so, but I will check and report to the hon. member.

* * *

BILINGUALISM

FARES LANGUAGE SCHOOL—INQUIRY AS TO RENEWAL OF
CONTRACT

Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the President of the Treasury Board. Is the minister now in a position to report as to his investigation of the Fares language school for civil servants specifically regarding the renewal of the school's contract with the federal government?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (President of Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I investigated the matter and the contract will not be renewed until the inquiry is completed.

* * *

[English]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

LEGALITY OF DEMURRAGE CHARGES AGAINST INNOCENT
THIRD PARTY—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Arnold Malone (Battle River): I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice. Before embarking on his trip to the western cities, will he "consult with legal authorities in the Department of Justice on the legality of demurrage charges being forwarded to innocent third parties, namely, farmers, and not being picked up by the unions and management organizations?"

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the questions of demurrage which arise, will, I think arise either in the case of the Canadian Wheat Board or of individual private owners of grain, and in each case they will have their own legal advice.

Mr. Malone: Is the minister suggesting that the board has no direct obligation to find out, in view of the fact that