

Inquiries of the Ministry

munication with any of the other signatories in reference to this agreement, particularly in view of the fact that Le Dain has now recommended the legalization of marijuana? As Canada is one of the signatories to that agreement which opposes legalization, has there been any communication at this time with any other nation?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will be pleased to take notice of this question on behalf of the ministers.

LE DAIN COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION RESPECTING MARIJUANA—INQUIRY AS TO INSTRUCTIONS TO CROWN AGENTS AND RCMP

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): May I put this question to the Solicitor General, Mr. Speaker. In light of the fact that in the Le Dain Commission report there are three different kinds of recommendations, has the Solicitor General issued any special instructions to agents of the Crown under the Attorney General of Canada with reference to sentences so as to make certain that those who are convicted of or plead guilty to a charge of being in possession of or using marijuana will be fined rather than sentenced to jail or penitentiary?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General): No, Mr. Speaker, those duties belong to the Minister of Justice, but I would be happy to know which of the three recommendations of the Le Dain report is supported by the opposition.

[English]

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, may I ask one further question which I think the Solicitor General will find within his jurisdiction? Have there been any special instructions issued to the RCMP, who have special jurisdiction in reference to narcotic control, that they should no longer use the incognito association methods they have used in the past in order to get evidence and convictions in reference particularly to possession and use of marijuana?

[Translation]

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police has the duty to enforce the law as it now exists.

PRESENTATION OF LEGISLATION RESPECTING MARIJUANA

Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a supplementary to the President of the Privy Council.

Since the Solicitor General just replied that he would like to have the views of opposition members on the Le Dain report, could the minister tell us if the government intends to introduce a bill shortly in the House so that the hon. members may take a position on this report?

[English]

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Valade: Why not?

[Mr. Woolliams.]

ELECTIONS

OTTAWA CENTRE—INQUIRY AS TO BY-ELECTION

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister which I will attempt to make an honest one.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Baldwin: In view of the interesting entry into the other place recently of a former distinguished member of this House, can the Prime Minister assure the House that steps will be taken in so far as Ottawa Centre is concerned to see that a by-election is held there at the same time as by-elections are held in Bonavista-Trinity-Conception and York West?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I will certainly consider that, Mr. Speaker, and if the hon. member has any other by-elections in mind I will be pleased to look after them as well.

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HEALTH

SUGGESTED DEVELOPMENT OF ANTI-ALCOHOLISM PROGRAM

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, I have a question I had hoped to put to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In his absence I hope you will permit me to ask the question and perhaps some minister will take it as notice. Having in mind the importance the Le Dain Commission has attached to alcoholism in Canada as a major Canadian drug problem, and in view of the fact that the federal government now has a net revenue of more than \$1 million a day from the sale of alcohol, will the Minister of National Health and Welfare give consideration to the development of a federal anti-alcoholism program?

Mr. Speaker: Apparently the matter is being considered at the highest level. I believe the hon. member for Spadina has a supplementary to a previous question.

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YOUTH

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—REASON FOR REFUSAL OF GRANT TO UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO TO PRODUCE POLLUTION-FREE AUTOMOBILE

Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina): No, Mr. Speaker. I have a question related to the motion I posed earlier and I should like to direct it to the right hon. Prime Minister. It relates to the Opportunities for Youth program. Can he inform the House why the application of the University of Toronto, which sought funds to complete a pollution-free electrical car for the urban vehicle design competition to be held in Michigan in August of this year, was rejected?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have some doubt whether hon. members should be allowed during the question