

## Oral Questions

House concerning his review of too-liberal abortion laws. In light of the fact that more than 7,000 foetuses have been aborted since he announced his review on March 5, is the minister now willing to make a statement on this matter?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice):** I am giving consideration to that question. I have, of course, discussed the proper enforcement of the criminal law with the provincial Attorneys General upon whom the main responsibility rests.

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● (1500)

## LABOUR RELATIONS

STRIKE BY EMPLOYEES OF NOVA SCOTIAN HOTEL,  
HALIFAX—POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT OF MEDIATOR

**Mr. David Lewis (York South):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. It arises out of another unfortunate strike of four or five weeks' duration by the employees of the Nova Scotian Hotel in Halifax, a subsidiary of Canadian National Railways. Is the minister's department taking any steps to bring the parties to the dispute together in the hope that a settlement may be reached?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, I believe, if my memory serves me correctly, we have offered mediation services to the parties to resolve the dispute. I can obtain further particulars for the hon. member.

**Mr. Lewis:** I am certain the minister made that statement in good faith and something may have happened, but in view of the fact a spokesman for the union informed me only last night that there has been no such invitation to the parties to meet, would the minister inquire and make certain that such an invitation does in fact go out to the parties without delay, because I am informed there may be an opportunity for settling the dispute?

**Mr. Munro:** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the observations of the hon. member and I will do that.

**Mr. Speaker:** I believe the hon. member for Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo has a supplementary to his question and he will be recognized for that purpose,

[Translation]

—and then I shall recognize the hon. member for Portneuf.

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[English]

## CRIMINAL CODE

## ABORTION—POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS

**Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo):** Mr. Speaker, I have just a short supplementary question for the Prime Minister. Would the Prime Minister tell the House whether he is currently envisaging bringing

[Mr. Beatty.]

down any further amendments to the Criminal Code dealing with abortion?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** No, Mr. Speaker.

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[Translation]

## HOUSING

PLACE MORIN VILLE VANIER, QUE.—MEASURES TO  
COMPENSATE DISSATISFIED OWNERS

**Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs.

In view of the fact that some homeowners who were dissatisfied with the houses they bought from the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation in Place Morin, Vanier City, have recently obtained a court judgment cancelling the sale and granting the payment of \$1,500 in costs, as a result of the action they had brought against Darec Construction and since the said judgment cannot be enforced because of the insolvency of the firm, could the minister indicate what steps he considers taking to help the victims whose houses are in need of immediate repairs?

[English]

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to look into the judgment first and the situation before I answer, so I will take the question as notice.

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## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SOUTH AFRICA—REASON COMMONWEALTH TARIFF  
PREFERENCE NOT WITHDRAWN BY CANADA

**Mr. Gus Mitges (Grey-Simcoe):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. On May 11 last, I asked the right hon. gentleman a question at which time he stated he would take it as notice. The question is as follows, as reported on page 3659 of *Hansard*:

In view of the fact South Africa has been expelled from the Commonwealth of Nations for some time now, would the Prime Minister tell the House why no plans were ever formulated by his government to withdraw Commonwealth preferential tariff treatment from that country?

I wonder whether the right hon. gentleman could give me an answer to that question today?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I must confess that I did look into the question at the time. The answer is not fresh in my mind, but I will try to formulate it. These preferences are on a reciprocal basis. Their object is to obtain as much gain as possible for the Canadian people as a trading nation, and I do not see any link with the Commonwealth. If they are favourable to us I can see no reason at all to abolish them. If they are unfavourable to us, then I think they should be negotiated out, whether South Africa is in the Commonwealth or not.