HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, January 22, 1969

The house met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP

CHANGES IN PASSPORTS TO STRENGTHEN SECURITY

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, an extensive study of passport security has been conducted by the Department of External Affairs over recent months in which, I might say, the advice of other departments of government has been received. As a result of these studies, a decision has been reached by the government to introduce a number of changes in Canadian passport requirements. These are summarized in an announcement which I am making today and which I now table for the information of hon. members in both our official languages.

CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT

OBLIGATION OF PHYSICIAN TO REPORT TO LEGAL AUTHORITY

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-159, to amend the Criminal Code (duty of attending physician).

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Nesbitt: The purpose of this bill is to ensure that in cases where deliberate neglect or abuse is present, the physician called in to treat a child patient will be made aware of his obligation to report the case to the legal authorities, namely the police, as one way of putting an end to mistreatment of children, which seems to have become endemic in our society.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time, and ordered to be printed.

PROVISION AFFECTING IMPAIRED DRIVERS WHO TAKE PROPER PRECAUTIONS

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-160, to amend the Criminal Code (control of motor vehicle).

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Nesbitt: Your Honour, the purpose of this bill is to amend the Criminal Code so as not to penalize drivers who realizing that they are intoxicated or that their ability to drive is impaired, are wise enough not to drive and to stop their car immediately and refrain from continuing their journey in their present state. I might add in this regard that since the United Kingdom changed their Criminal Code in this regard, I would hope the Minister of Justice might consider sending both these bills to the Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

P.E.I.—FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION TO IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION

Question No. 535-Mr. Macquarrie:

- 1. Has the government contributed financially to the Economic Improvement Corporation of Prince Edward Island and, if so, what is the amount of such contribution since the establishment of the Corporation?
- 2. When is it intended to conclude an agreement with the Government of Prince Edward Island on an economic improvement program for the province?
- 3. Will such a program be based wholly or in part on the recommendations of the Economic Improvement Corporation of Prince Edward Island?
- Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the department of Forestry and Rural Development as follows: 1. Yes. \$331,-164.82.
- 2. Discussions aimed at an early agreement are presently taking place.
- 3. The program would be based in part on the recommendations of the Economic Improvement Corporation.