

in their use in the cities of Edmonton and Calgary emanating from Vancouver—

Some hon. Members: Question!

Mr. Woolliams: If you will just wait a moment I will ask the question. Has the minister given special instructions to the RCMP narcotics squad to intensify and step up law enforcement against traffickers to halt this drug flow which has moved from British Columbia into Alberta and other provinces?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, there have been no special instructions in respect of one province or another, but law enforcement in respect of drugs has been placed in the highest priority for the coming year by the RCMP in their criminal investigation work.

Mr. Woolliams: Perhaps I might ask one more question. Has the minister set up a special study on technological clinics in British Columbia, Alberta and other provinces as recommended by the LeDain Commission in its first report in order to publicize the dangers and the irreparable physical, emotional and mental destruction that result from the use of the hard drugs, and have centres been set up to rehabilitate young people in particular who have already become addicted to hard drugs, namely heroin?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, I know we have drug rehabilitation programs operating in penitentiaries, but I am not sure they are the ones suggested in the LeDain report. I will check into that.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I wish to draw to your attention that the preface to the question asked by the hon. member for Calgary North was to the effect that the Minister of National Health and Welfare had suppressed some statistics. In the absence of the minister I want to take the strongest exception to that. I wish the hon. member would not make such allegations, particularly when the minister is not in the House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, perhaps I might just make the point that the Prime Minister is taking strong objection to the article that appeared in the *Globe and Mail*. If the minister were here and wanted to deny it, that would be fine, as I have always been one of the first to accept a minister's statement.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I do not think it is sufficient indication of the veracity of a statement for an hon. member to say he read it in a newspaper.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Baldwin: Suppression is your middle name over there.

Mr. Woolliams: Take it up with the *Globe and Mail*.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Oral Questions

AGRICULTURE

REQUEST FOR ACTION TO PROTECT LIVELIHOOD OF FARMERS DELIVERING MILK TO SMALLER CHEESE FACTORIES

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the one asked by the hon. member for Huron. In light of the circumstances surrounding cheese production in Ontario, would he initiate talks between the Canadian Dairy Commission and the Ontario Milk Marketing Board in order to protect the livelihood of those farmers who are delivering milk to the smaller cheese factories in Ontario so that both the farmers and the smaller end of that industry can survive?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Leeds.

Mr. Gleave: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I am not sure whether the minister was paying attention and heard my question, or simply does not choose to answer it. Perhaps he could enlighten the House.

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I was reading a letter on my desk from a group of farmers and did not hear the question of the hon. member about another group of farmers.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I would hope that if the hon. member repeats his question he will do so in a shorter form as it appeared to the Chair it was rather more like a speech than a question. If the hon. member wishes to repeat his question briefly, the minister will be given the floor for the purpose of replying.

• (1500)

Mr. Gleave: Mr. Speaker, I did my best and I will again try to be as clear as I can. I asked the minister whether he would instruct the Canadian Dairy Commission to meet with the Ontario Milk Marketing Board in order to consider the problems of those producers in Ontario who are delivering milk to smaller cheese factories for cheese production so that the livelihood of the farmers and the continuing operation of the cheese factories can be assured?

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, I can confirm to the hon. member that we have already had this meeting and have discussed these very problems.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CUBA—SUGGESTED REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF RONALD PATRICK LIPPETT ON COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS

Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister who I assume must welcome the decision of the Cuban government to permit the daughter of Ronald Patrick Lippett to visit him in prison if she can arrange to go there. My question is: In view of the recent example set by President Nixon of the United States in contacting the head of the government of The People's