

Inquiries of the Ministry

sex offender, before his temporary release in the light of the fact that the parole board refused his parole?

[Translation]

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, I must say that the prisoner involved had 94 interviews with various psychiatrists over a period of five years. In other words, that prisoner has been receiving intensive treatment from our department.

[English]

Mr. Woolliams: I have one more question, Mr. Speaker. Did the particular person in question refuse to be interviewed by a psychiatrist, and was that the reason the parole board recently refused to release him? I ask the minister how he justifies the 90 interviews to which he referred when the parole board refused his release.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is obviously an argument.

Mr. Woolliams: Ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

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[Translation]

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

INCREASE IN CONSULTATION MECHANISMS—BRIEF OF QUEBEC CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE—RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT SECRETARIAT

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.

Last week, at their annual conference, the delegates of the Chambers of Commerce sent Premier Bourassa a resolution asking him to establish mechanisms for consultation with the federal government and Mr. Bourassa replied that he felt it was essential to increase consultation mechanisms with Ottawa—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It seems to me that the hon. member could ask his question without such a long preamble.

Mr. La Salle: Mr. Speaker, since the Quebec premier stated that he felt it was essential to increase consultation mechanisms with Ottawa in order to avoid unnecessary tensions within federalism, would the Prime Minister indicate whether he is prepared to favour the establishment of such mechanisms?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, consultation mechanisms already exist and are used a great deal in respect of relations between the federal government and all provinces. I would be prepared, if the Chambers of Commerce are interested, to indicate to them the number of consultation mechanisms already existing. I think the record would show that we have established more of those than any previous government.

Mr. La Salle: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary.

The province of Quebec having made known its wishes concerning reopening of constitutional negotiations, is the Prime Minister in a position to indicate whether he intends to re-establish the permanent secretariat responsible for federal-provincial conferences?

[Mr. Woolliams.]

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the secretariat is still in existence. Only, the staff has been reduced. If the province of Quebec really wants to submit specific proposals with a view to reopening the debate and recalling federal-provincial conferences, we will consider doing so.

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• (1450)

[English]

AGRICULTURE

CATTLE—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON METHODS TO AVOID LOSS OF ANIMALS IN TRANSIT

Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. It concerns the meeting which was held last Friday between the Humane Society, representatives of the railroad companies and officials of the Department of Agriculture in order to determine what progress is being made in new methods of shipping cattle from western Canada to eastern Canada which will avoid severe losses such as occurred last fall. Does the minister believe the situation will be better this fall?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Of course, we can never predict precisely what the weather will be like next winter. Last year there were some unfortunate coincidences involving severe weather, the difficulty of getting cars through certain railroad terminals, and so on. We hope all of these problems can be avoided.

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CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

DIFFICULTIES WITH SHIPMENTS FROM SUDBURY TO CHAPLEAU—REQUEST FOR REPORT

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. Has the minister discussed with the Canadian Transport Commission and the Canadian Pacific Railway the difficulties which have arisen in connection with the shipment of products from Sudbury to Chapleau in areas served solely by the CPR?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): If the subject matter is the one the hon. member and I discussed the other day, may I say that I thank him for his letter, which I received over the weekend. I have passed it to the Canadian Transport Commission with a request for a full report which I will then pass on to the hon. member.

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FISHERIES

LOBSTERS—POSSIBLE EXTENSION OF SEASON FOR DISTRICT 7B

Mr. Melvin McQuaid (Cardigan): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Fisheries. In view of the fact that the lobster fishermen in District 7B were delayed for