

Inquiries of the Ministry

covering such questions as compensation or whatever they wish to discuss. I do not think it would be proper for me to give any indication of what we intend to stick by. The announcement made in this house represented government policy, and until we decide otherwise it will remain government policy.

Mr. George Muir (Lisgar): Can the minister assure the house he will make the same arrangements in the case of vegetable oils imported into this country?

Mr. Olson: The hon. gentleman knows that the subject of vegetable oils and the possibility that such oils have been dumped into this country is now under active investigation by the Department of National Revenue.

[Translation]

SPORTS

INQUIRY AS TO LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

In view of the presence in the galleries of the brilliant athletes who represented Canada at the recent Mexico Olympic Games, does he intend to introduce, during the current session, legislation to help Canadian athletes in general who represent Canada at various international competitions at their own expense, as several athletes did in the recent Mexico Olympic Games?

[English]

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Perhaps I might answer that question. The government does not contemplate legislation until it has had a chance to study the report of the task force.

[Translation]

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a supplementary question to the hon. Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Would his government consider instead creating a sports department?

[English]

Mr. Munro: That would be a matter of policy to be announced in due course if a decision of that kind were made.

[Translation]

Mr. La Salle: Mr. Speaker, the minister answered that the matter would have to be taken under consideration. Could I ask him to do that?

[English]

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my question arises out of the pertinent and effective words of the Prime Minister in drawing attention to the presence of Canadian athletes in the gallery and the fact that Canada, represented by them, has done as well under the circumstances as was to have been expected.

In view of the fact that international prestige is measured to a greater degree than ever by success at Olympics, and considering the number of members in this house who have been outstanding athletes, including the Prime Minister—we had wins in the swimming events; we didn't do so well in the diving—would the Prime Minister give consideration to setting up a committee of the house at the earliest possible date so that, as a result of recommendations made by it, young men and women across Canada may be placed in a position that by the time the next Olympics come around they will have had adequate opportunities for training and assistance which will enable Canadian athletes to multiply the number of awards secured by Canada during the Olympics just ended?

Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, as the Minister of National Health and Welfare just indicated there is a task force dealing with this matter. Its precise purpose is to go about the country and get information of this type. After it has been reported to the minister he will raise the question in cabinet and we will examine the most effective way of dealing with the problem.

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, is this task force to be chaired by the minister himself?

Mr. Munro: Mr. Speaker, I think the Leader of the Opposition should know that the task force has been in operation for three months under the chairmanship of Dr. Harold Rea. The other members are Miss Nancy Greene and Dr. Paul DesRuisseaux.

[Translation]

AIRPORTS

MONTREAL—STEPS TO SETTLE DISPUTE WITH TAXI DRIVERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the hon. Minister of Transport.