Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, there have been consultations between the officials in the respective departments of immigration in connection with co-operative action which might be taken to improve our immigration practices and procedures and to improve the way in which immigrants are received when they enter Canada.

Mr. Paproski: Can the minister say if this new policy of refusing immigrants admission into 19 medical and technical corporations unless they have a working knowledge of French applies to immigrants coming to Quebec under the auspices of the federal department of immigration?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the problem to which the hon. member refers, but I will be glad to look into it.

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a further supplementary question?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon member for a further supplementary question in just a moment. Will the hon member kindly allow me to suggest to hon members that I will again seek their co-operation at the beginning of the question period so that we will have no difficulty at the end.

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Speaker, is the government aware of the comment of the Quebec Minister of Immigration that any interference from Ottawa could lead to confrontation?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings.

LABOUR RELATIONS

GENERAL MOTORS STRIKE—ACTION TO EXPEDITE SETTLEMENT

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour. Since this is not his duty day in the House and as this is an important question, I will direct it to the Prime Minister.

Mr. Trudeau: Is it an important question?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: Good morning.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, I am waiting for quiet. In view of the breakdown of negotiations in the General Motors labour dispute which occurred yesterday, will the federal government immediately offer its mediation services and any other help which might be useful in order to bring this very long and costly strike, which has resulted in hardship for the families of the strikers and a setback for the economy, to a very rapid end?

[Mr. Paproski.]

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, there is nothing that the Minister of Labour likes more than being helpful in this kind of situation—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: —but of course this is a strike under provincial jurisdiction. I do not know if the hon. member is suggesting that we should interfere in the business of the government of Ontario in this strike.

Mr. Hees: I am suggesting that the government should offer any help that might be useful, because this is a matter of national importance and it is of great national importance that this strike should be brought to a quick

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I understand the suggestion but I imagine it is addressed to the government of Ontario. If it wants our support, we will of course gladly give it.

GENERAL MOTORS—IMPORTATION OF CARS FROM UNITED STATES WHILE CANADIAN EMPLOYEES STILL ON STRIKE

Mr. J. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): In view of the deadlock in the negotiations to settle the General Motors strike, would the government reassess its decision not to prohibit General Motors from importing automobiles from the United States for the duration of this strike?

GRAIN

BARLEY—PRICE SPREAD BETWEEN DELIVERIES TO COUNTRY ELEVATORS AND FEED MILLS

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the minister who is responsible for the Wheat Board. Since western farmers delivering barley to country elevators are receiving 30 cents per bushel less than they would receive for the same product delivered to feed mills, what action is the government taking to ensure that farmers are not financially penalized by placing barley in export position?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I should like to welcome the hon. member to the House. Farmers, of course, may deliver their barley to feed mills to the extent that there is demand for that barley at the prices which are offered. As an alternative, in most cases they deliver their barley to the Wheat Board under the Wheat Board marketing system. I would be interested to know if the hon. member is suggesting that he is opposed to the Wheat Board marketing system.

ABILITY OF FARMERS TO DELIVER TO ELEVATORS

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration who is also