Oral Questions

I realize that nothing material could make up to you for the loss of one of your family . . .

Nevertheless, as an indication of my country's deep regret at the loss you have sustained and of the esteem we feel toward the Canadian people, I am asking my government officials to discuss with the Canadian High Commission in Zambia the question of ex gratia payment to you. I hope that you will accept this gesture as a further expression of my deep sympathy and that of the Zambian nation.

With your permission, Mr. Speaker, I should like to table a copy of the whole letter.

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Baldwin: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, if it is not a long letter could it be appended to *Hansard* rather than tabled?

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[Editor's note: For text of letter, see appendix.]

Mr. Hales: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the minister's agreement to have the letter appended to *Hansard*. As a supplementary question may I ask whether the minister has dispatched an envoy to Zambia? If so, has he left, what is his name and has he reported anything further?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, on June 5 I said:

I have also taken the rather extraordinary step of sending a special envoy to Zambia to underline the nature of the concern of the Canadian people and I expect he will be there shortly.

He has been there and has returned, having carried out his mission. I emphasize that he was not there to do any negotiating but simply to convey the views, as a Canadian, to the president so that he would understand.

• (1450)

Mr. Hales: Mr. Speaker, the minister answered all my questions but the name of the person he dispatched.

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, the person concerned does not want his name to be used. However, I can assure the hon. member and the House that this was a Canadian of good repute, a private citizen who undertook this mission on our behalf. I feel he could only have carried out this task which the government asked him to assume so long as he remained anonymous.

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SPORTS

SUGGESTED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ETOBICOKE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Because of the cutback last week in money for athletic programs to the Etobicoke Board of Education, which will result in the termination of all school competitive sports programs in that Toronto borough, and because of the fact the federal government is [Mr. Sharp.] responsible for sports, physical fitness and the well-being of all Canadians, can the minister advise the House if and when the federal government, through the minister's department, will assist this large segment of Toronto's young population?

[Translation]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that the hon. member put his question to the Ontario government.

[English]

MONTREAL OLYMPIC GAMES BILL—GOVERNMENT POSITION RESPECTING BUDGET FORECAST AND POSSIBLE DEFICIT

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister with regard to the bill that has been introduced respecting the Olympic Games. The Prime Minister will recall that his officials disagreed to the extent of some \$100 million with regard to the budget forecast of COJO. Does the introduction of this bill mean that the officials of the government of Canada are now in agreement with the budget forecast of COJO or do these budget differences still exist?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the House will recall that the disagreement was not so much on the expenditure side as on the revenue side, the revenue which might be available from the sale of Olympic coins. As far as I know, no great attempt has been made on our side to reconcile this difference. I believe it is still an honest difference. We still fear there might be a deficit and COJO believes there will not be. However, from the point in time that we got the assurances of COJO, the city of Montreal and the government of the province of Quebec that it would assume any possible deficit, the matter ceased to be one which we thought might prevent us from introducing the bill.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I do not question the Prime Minister's words, but is he correct in saying he has received an assurance from the province of Quebec that it will assume the deficit or simply that the government of Canada will not be asked to assume the deficit?

Mr. Trudeau: I stand corrected, Mr. Speaker. The Leader of the Opposition is correct. I believe that is the phraseology of the government of Quebec in a letter from its Prime Minister, namely, that the government of Canada will not be called upon in any way to bear any deficit.

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INCOME TAX

RECONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED CORPORATE TAX REDUCTIONS IN LIGHT OF INCREASED PROFITS

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Finance I will direct my question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that over the weekend Statistics Canada reported there was an