

fare. Has the minister investigated the allegation in yesterday morning's *Montreal Gazette* that at least two abortion referral agencies in the Montreal area are channelling pregnant women to United States lawyers who arrange adoptions for prospective parents, who sometimes pay several thousand dollars? If so, has he confirmed that this is in fact taking place? Perhaps I could ask my supplementary at the same time. If this is in fact taking place, does the minister feel that such activities are proper or whether we, as Canadians, have a responsibility to provide for pregnant women who want to put their children up for adoption and for the provision of good homes for children of pregnant Canadian women?

[Translation]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I have not had the opportunity of reading the articles in question; I therefore cannot commit myself as to the veracity of the allegations they may contain. In any event, the matter, to my mind, falls within the jurisdiction of the Minister of Justice rather than that of the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

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COMMUNICATIONS

CABLEVISION—SUGGESTION ON JURISDICTIONAL QUESTION

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

Considering that a very important conference on communications is being held and that last Sunday the Quebec premier ventured to criticize the stubbornness of the federal government on this issue, may I ask the Prime Minister whether he is prepared to discuss this matter as soon as possible with the Quebec premier and after that consultation try to have the responsible minister make an acceptable compromise to both Quebec and Ottawa?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I believe the hon. member previously put that type of question to the Minister of Communications. I remind him of the content of the minister's answers, that conferences have been held in the last two years. The federal government has proposed all sorts of arrangements, except, once again, a transfer of constitutional jurisdiction. That transfer to ministers cannot in all fairness be decided by others than first ministers and not at the level of ministers of communications. So, short of a constitutional jurisdiction transfer, the federal government made arrangements proposals of all kinds. The province of Quebec chose another course. As far as I am concerned, I hope the current conference will bring a fair solution for both parties.

Privilege—Mr. Trudeau

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. On June 17, 1975, the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) raised a very important point, to wit, the sixty-fifth anniversary of the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings (Mr. Hees). On that occasion I promised I would follow up an application on his part for old age security and ensure that he received the appropriate card as a senior citizen.

● (1500)

My department has now completed this formality, and it gives me great pleasure to forward the hon. member an appropriate senior citizen's card. I also said at the time that I would be very happy to consider a New Horizons grant for the hon. member, and I am still waiting to hear from him in this connection.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, I would say, first of all, that the minister's generosity has me completely overwhelmed—but just temporarily. Of course, this is a very exciting moment for me, as hon. members can guess, because I am told this certificate makes it possible for me to travel by bus and go to movies at half price. I can see that from now on my life is going to be simply a whirl of travel and entertainment. In making this generous gesture toward me, by which he has made it possible for me to enjoy these simple pleasures as I drift into the golden era of life, the minister has proved something which I do not think anybody in Canada up to this moment would be prepared to believe, that is, it is now evident that this government has a heart.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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PRIVILEGE

MR. TRUDEAU—UN CONFERENCE ON CRIMINOLOGY, TORONTO—REFERENCE TO MR. GROSSMAN

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I indicated to you that unless there was a possibility of replying to a question during the question period in such a way as to permit me to clarify the matter, I would raise the subject of a statement made by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) last Friday when he asked the Acting Prime Minister (Mr. Sharp) a question and said that I had apparently misled the House. At one point he talked about "this apparent effort of the Prime Minister to mislead the House in this regard." The matter had to do with the invitation extended to the United Nations to hold its conference on criminology in Toronto.

I want to set the record straight on that question by saying that my words were correct, of course, as they were stated at page 7440 of *Hansard*: "... Mr. Grossman of Ontario government stuck his head out and invited this conference to come to Canada in the first place." That is technically correct, Mr. Speaker, but I understand it has been misunderstood by people who thought I was indicat-