

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): First of all, Mr. Speaker, the capital gains tax is a new tax. Secondly, the federal government has moved out of the death duty field, and the provinces had to enact legislation to get the amount of money they were getting previously if they still wished to have such a tax. That is the kind of legislation I understand the provinces are bringing forward. So, there will be an over-all reduction in death duties if they just raise the amount of moneys they received previously, because the federal government will not be raising the 25 per cent it received previously.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): As a supplementary question, does the minister now say that the provinces will be raising their succession duty levies or extending into that field in order to maintain the same level of revenues, notwithstanding the fact that they will get their share of the capital gains tax under provincial-dominion agreements now in existence?

Mr. Benson: Mr. Speaker, this is basically a provincial matter. We moved out of the death duties field. Many of the provinces have moved into it. It is simply a provincial matter.

• (3:30 p.m.)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That appears to be a matter of debate between the minister and the hon. member. We have a few minutes left before the end of the question period and we should try to move on.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

SHEEP—REQUEST FOR AID TO INDUSTRY—POSSIBLE SUBSIDY

Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot): One short question for the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Speaker. In trying to establish the goals of that department, and one realizes that the Government has received about \$12 million from the tariff on woollen goods entering Canada, is the minister prepared to assist the sheep industry with some of the money received by the government from the tariff on wools because the industry is going through a very difficult period?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, assistance has been given to the sheep producers in Canada for the last ten or 15 years, and I am most anxious that they maximize their returns from the production of lamb because there is a greater market for that, which I am convinced is not being exploited in the producers' interest at the moment. We are taking active steps to improve the situation in that direction now.

Some hon. Members: Baa, baa!

Mr. Horner: A supplementary question. The minister suggested that they are taking steps to improve the situation by creating a greater demand for lamb. Does he mean that they are going to come out with a subsidy for the sale of lamb?

Mr. Olson: Mr. Speaker—

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest that is debate again.

* * *

HONOURS AND AWARDS

REQUEST FOR EARLY RECOGNITION OF MEN OF "HMCS KOOTENAY"

Mr. D. W. Groos (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister, and I hope he will agree with me that the passage of time has made it a question of urgency. I refer, Mr. Speaker, to the matter of honours awarded by the nation in recognition of heroic acts performed by its people, and specifically to impending awards for bravery to be made to men of Her Majesty's Canadian ship *Kootenay*, many of whom died performing their duty saving their ship and shipmates from even greater disaster. Could the Prime Minister tell us when these awards will be made or if not, would he use his influence to speed them up as they are now more than two years overdue?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I recognize the urgency of some action in this matter but I would inform the House that we are trying to deal with the subject in an over-all way by integrating these bravery awards with other awards which are attributed in Canada. This matter has been under consideration by the government for some time, and I hope we will be able to take action in all these regards very early in the new year.

* * *

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

DEATH OF INDIAN AT WILLIAMS LAKE ATTRIBUTED TO BEATING BY OFFICER—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): My question is for the Solicitor General and refers to a question I asked on December 17 regarding an incident at Williams Lake, B.C. and the death of an Indian. Has the minister completed an investigation and, if so, when can we expect a statement from him? In particular, I should like to know whether the officer in question was on duty or not?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I have received another report from the RCMP Commissioner and I must discuss it with him before taking a decision about the policy to be followed.

* * *

[English]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

POSSIBLE ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFIT CHEQUES TO WELFARE AGENCIES

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): I have a question for the Minister of Labour. Has the minister received any reaction, officially or otherwise, from municipalities as a