

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I did not downgrade it. Actually, I indicated to the voluntary sector working through the grant program, and people in the ethno-cultural groups who are prepared to assist in this regard, that such assistance will remain a component of the program. Actually, we shall be able to put more resources into it. But I indicated the reality of the situation. Certainly, the educational system is the responsibility of the provinces, and it seems to me that they should extend the type of aid of which the hon. member talks.

Mr. Orlikow: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister explain the apparent change in policy, evident from speeches he has made? Apparently he has done this without meeting formally with the Canadian Consultative Council, which the government appointed. The minister seems to have done this either by consulting with a few of his officials, or engaging in informal discussions with members of the council or other people.

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, I certainly have been meeting with the Canadian Consultative Council on an ongoing basis. I have been meeting people all across the country and talking about the various aspects of the policy and the direction in which it should go. In addition, I have met directly many ethno-cultural groups of this country. As late as last night I was talking to the Germany community in Kitchener about this aspect of the policy.

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PENITENTIARIES

INQUIRY AS TO STATUS OF PROPOSED INSTITUTION AT STURGEON, ALBERTA

Mr. Peter Elzinga (Pembina): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. What is the status of the proposed medium and maximum security penal institution in the municipal district of Sturgeon, Alberta?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, we are re-examining that particular site for a penitentiary but we would like to stay there. We have already purchased land and spent a good deal of money on development. We have already spent \$213,000, and when we went to that site, we had the support of the provincial government. So it would be with great reluctance that we would withdraw from the site. But we are considering representations.

● (1450)

Mr. Elzinga: In view of the fact that the construction permit issued by the municipal district has expired, and bearing in mind the minister's statement that if the general public in the surrounding area were opposed to the prison he would alter his proposal, would the minister explain why a sum in excess of \$200,000 was spent on feasibility studies before the public had an opportunity to express their opinion with regard to the choice of this site?

Mr. Allmand: Well, Mr. Speaker, we started working on this site more than a year ago and although it was known,

Oral Questions

or should have been known, that we were doing so, no objections were raised until very much later. As a matter of fact, the local authorities and the provincial government, gave us the go-ahead. A lot of work had been done before any protests were made. They came much later.

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CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

PROTEST AGAINST PROGRAM "THE SIX YEARS OF WAR"

Mr. Gus Mitges (Grey-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State. In view of the fact that on Sunday evening, November 30, the CBC saw fit to portray a television play "The Six Years of War" which emphasized out of all proportion the lewd side of service life rather than the honourable intentions of the many who volunteered their services in time of war, I should like to ask the minister on behalf of the many veterans and others who have officially protested this presentation through the Royal Canadian Legion whether he would intercede with the CBC with a view to seeing that future presentations which are in extremely bad taste will be prohibited from being viewed on our national network?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I will make sure that this representation gets to the corporation.

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NATIONAL PARKS

PROPOSED EXPANSION OF ST. LAWRENCE ISLANDS PARK—REASON FOR ATTEMPTS TO PURCHASE LAND

Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and a short supplementary to the Minister of Supply and Services. I should like to express my appreciation to the Minister of Indian Affairs for the courteous almost two-hour hearing he gave representatives from my constituency concerning the expansion of the St. Lawrence Islands Park.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Cossitt: While the minister guaranteed that no negotiations for the purchase of private property would take place in the area until certain studies had been made, can the hon. gentleman tell the House why persons claiming to represent the Department of Supply and Services have been negotiating and attempting to purchase certain islands and land in the area? Has Parks Canada become aware of this?

Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): As I stated to the hon. member earlier, approximately 20 individuals have come forward and offered their land and there have been discussions.