

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Before giving the floor to the hon. member for Nickel Belt, I wonder if I might ask for the direction of hon. members. The question period would normally expire at about 1.04. I wonder if hon. members would rather stay until then, to clean up the question period, and then come back, with the House in committee of the whole, at two o'clock? Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

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PENITENTIARIES

USE OF BURWASH INDUSTRIAL FARM AS MEDIUM SECURITY INSTITUTION

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the Ontario government has closed down the Burwash minimum security prison in the Sudbury basin and relocated 200 jobs from that district, and in view of the fact that the federal government is seeking a site for a medium security prison somewhere in southern Ontario at a cost of \$7 million, will the Solicitor General inform the House whether his department has investigated the possibility of transforming Burwash to a medium security prison and, if not, does he intend to do so?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, we have already examined this possibility with the government of Ontario. Unfortunately, it does not seem that the Burwash institution would be satisfactory for federal needs. First of all, our policy now is to move into smaller institutions which accommodate 150 to 180 inmates. Second, we try to locate the institutions as near as possible to the major population areas from which the inmates come. Our need is in southern Ontario and not in northern Ontario, because most of the inmates come from southern Ontario. For these reasons we do not feel that Burwash is suitable at the present time.

Mr. Rodriguez: Mr. Speaker, I fully realize that we from northern Ontario are very law-abiding citizens. However, in view of the fact that the minister's department has been looking around in the Barrie area, which is only an hour or an hour and a half from Burwash by car—I do not think that is very far—will the minister reconsider the Burwash institution for upgrading to a medium security institution? Would he please look at this situation again, in view of the fact it is not very far from the centres from which people come who commit crimes?

Mr. Allmand: As I said, Mr. Speaker, it is not suitable because of its size. Burwash is a rather large institution which would require a lot of work, at great expense, to put into the type of shape we would require. Consequently, I think it would be better for us to build the type of institutions we need near the areas where they are required.

Oral Questions

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

GANGLAND SLAYINGS IN MONTREAL, QUEBEC—POLICE FORCES INVOLVED IN INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, in view of the continuing blood bath in Montreal, would the Solicitor General tell the House whether the special group consisting of members of the RCMP, members of the Quebec Provincial Police and members of the Montreal police force which were used during the 1972, FLQ crisis, is to be reconstituted to deal with the mass, gangland slayings which may well have international implications and which will, if continued, undoubtedly affect security arrangements for the Olympic Games?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I will have to look into that matter. I can tell the House that there is very close co-operation among the RCMP, the Montreal Urban Community Police and the Quebec Provincial Police in respect of matters relating to crime. I will check into the representations made by the hon. member.

Mr. Nowlan: Mr. Speaker, the minister more or less anticipated my supplementary question. I intended to ask him whether he has had any recent communication with the Attorney General of Quebec or the Montreal police chief, in respect of what is becoming a national disgrace, to ascertain if there are any direct national or international implications to this disgraceful and sordid story and to ensure that there is the fullest co-operation between the three police forces.

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, I have had recent discussions with the Minister of Justice for Quebec, but not on that particular subject. I can tell the House that there are frequent consultations among the RCMP, the Montreal Urban Community Police force and Sureté Quebec. I will check to see if more can be done and, in particular, I will look into the question raised by the hon. member.

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EGG MARKETING

GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO CEMA TO PROMOTE EXPORT SALES

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce which arises from a recent report in the *Kitchener-Waterloo Record*, in which the Minister of Agriculture is reported to have stressed the need for the minister's department making available to the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency part of a \$10 million per year fund to help promote export sales of Canadian agricultural products. The Minister of Agriculture is quoted as saying:

They'd better be giving them some or I'll break their goddamn necks.

I should like to ask the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce whether he found his colleague's logic persuasive and, if so, whether CEMA has access to some of that money.