

## Oral Questions

● (1140)

## INDIAN AFFAIRS

MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH NATIVE REPRESENTATIVES—  
REASON FOR DELAY

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development whether he has been meeting with representatives of the Indian caravan group. Have there been any communications and what has been the nature of any discussions which may have taken place.

**Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, to date I have not met with representatives of this group. We had a tentative meeting set for two p.m. on Monday. They were otherwise occupied. Since that time there have been, I think, three communications between representatives of this group and my office. I have indicated I am prepared to meet with them but there apparently has not been willingness on their part to take advantage of this opportunity.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, apparently the minister is now willing to meet with these people. Has there been any suggestion they have demanded terms before they will meet with the minister? Has there been anything of that kind to delay a meeting which should take place? Otherwise, the situation will be exacerbated the longer they remain here.

**Mr. Buchanan:** Mr. Speaker, the only condition I imposed is that I am not prepared to go down to the Indian embassy at Carbide Mills.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** That means you closed the door.

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## PARLIAMENT HILL

REQUEST OF INDIAN BROTHERHOOD FOR INVESTIGATION  
INTO VIOLENCE—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Wally Firth (Northwest Territories):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. Will the Prime Minister also accept the suggestion made by the National Indian Brotherhood that there should be an independent investigation of the violence of Monday on Parliament Hill?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** I am not aware of that suggestion, Mr. Speaker. I will discuss that with the minister. I do not know what is deemed to be an independent investigation. We believe the facts are well known to the public. The government has hidden nothing.

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## TRANSPORT

BRITISH COLUMBIA FERRY SYSTEM—REASON FOR FAILURE  
OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO SUBSIDIZE

**Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond Delta):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister or

[Mr. Gillespie.]

possibly the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that the B.C. ferry system is the only ferry system that is part of the trans-Canada highway and not subsidized by the federal government, could the Prime Minister or the Minister of Transport tell us why the government refuses to subsidize the B.C. ferry system?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** I think, Mr. Speaker, we subsidize only ferries which service two provinces. I do not think there is a borderline between Victoria and Vancouver. This ferry system is within the same province. This is the reason we do not give any subsidy.

**Mr. Reynolds:** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. That answer might make some sense if there were not a ferry service on Lake Huron totally subsidized by the federal government. I would still like to know why the government refuses to subsidize the B.C. ferry service when it subsidizes a service within one province.

**Mr. Marchand (Langelier):** Mr. Speaker, we have to take one or the other decision, that is either to subsidize the first one or subsidize the second one.

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[Translation]

## HOUSING

GOVERNMENT POSITION ON REMOVAL OF ELEVEN PER CENT  
TAX ON BUILDING MATERIALS

**Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister. Does he intend to take action on the recommendations made in the report of the Economic Council of Canada on the problem of housing construction, particularly concerning the removal of the 11 per cent sales tax on building materials?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Concerning this particular suggestion, Mr. Speaker, the answer is no. As to the general recommendations in the report, many of them are quite interesting and the government intends to take action on them.

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[English]

## AGRICULTURE

EGGS—KNOWLEDGE OF DEPARTMENT OF OVER-PRODUCTION  
AND MEASURES TO DEAL WITH IT

**Mr. Bill Jarvis (Perth-Wilmot):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. In light of the fact that there is circulating in the egg industry, as well as branches of his department, weekly statistics with regard to not only egg production but also hatching of chicks which eventually become pullets, and in light of the fact that over a long period earlier this year these statistics clearly showed not only an over-production of eggs but also chicks, would the minister tell us what action he or his department took either personally, through CEMA or through the council to avert what is obviously an over-production of both eggs and chicks.