

urgent and pressing necessity before they are permitted. This question has no urgency whatsoever as the Canadian people know that this treaty was signed a few days ago. The fact that it has been brought up now does not qualify it as an urgent question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member and to all hon. members that it is for the Chair to determine what is a matter of urgency. After the question period the conclusion of the Chair from day to day is that many questions are asked and allowed that hardly qualify under the criterion suggested by the hon. member. In view of the circumstances I think the question asked by the hon. member is in order.

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I would point out for the benefit of hon. members opposite that this is the first time a question has been asked about Canada's attitude toward this treaty. It should have been asked by the opposition but apparently they are not alive to the importance of this matter.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: It would not have been allowed.

Mr. Sharp: Canada welcomes this treaty and its attendant documents, including the provisions dealing with Poland's western boundary. We admire the courage and the realism that the federal government of Germany has shown—

An hon. Member: Hallelujah!

An hon. Member: Sit down!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have to interrupt the minister. It is obvious from his reply that what he wants to do is make a statement to the House, but the minister can only do this by way of a statement on motions. I would suggest to him that he should not give the information by way of a statement at this time.

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, with all due deference, when a question is asked by a Member of Parliament on a matter that he considers urgent and that I agree is urgent, I think it is important that he should have an answer from me. I do not want to make any statement in the House—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Make it on motions.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Would the minister kindly resume his seat? The question was asked and the minister replied, albeit briefly. I doubt that the statement he was about to make should be made by way of a reply to a question. With respect, I suggest to him that this should be the position in connection with the procedural aspect of the matter.

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Baldwin: Put it to music and sing it at the Christmas party.

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IMMIGRATION

ESTABLISHMENT OF SECURITY REVIEW BOARD

Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In order to hasten immigration appeals and to reassure the public, has the minister decided to set up a security review board to screen and deal with immigration security cases, as recommended by the latest Sedgwick report and the Royal Commission on Security?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, a question put that broadly goes beyond the scope of my department. Certainly we are considering the whole question of appeal procedures following upon the Sedgwick report and other considerations in this issue. These will include a consideration of the best method of handling security cases as well as the best ways of handling all the other problems involved in the matter generally.

Mr. Ryan: Is the minister recommending to cabinet that such a board should be set up?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is in the wrong place to be told that.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Bell: Shame! There you have the same old bunch.

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HOUSING

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON MORTGAGE MONEY REQUIREMENTS AND ROLE OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the minister in charge of housing. In view of the recent discussions he has had with representatives of pension funds and in view of his statement that there will be an anticipated short-fall of mortgage moneys from conventional sources, would the minister make a statement on motions before the Christmas recess setting forth the financial requirements and the targets that we expect our financial institutions to meet?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that the question is in order only to the extent that the hon. member is asking the minister whether a statement will be made or not.

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, I will not be in a position to make a statement as all-embracing as that being asked for by the hon. member before we rise for the Christmas recess. I will make the pertinent information known to all members as soon as that is reasonably possible.