

*Inquiries of the Ministry***ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE****INVESTIGATION OF AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT IN WHICH
COUPLE FOUND DEAD IN CAR IN WATER DUGOUT
INVOLVED**

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Solicitor General. It arises out of the disappearance of an elderly Holden, Alberta, couple last September 4 who were discovered in their automobile in a water dugout in the Peace River district last Sunday. In view of the fact that a motor vehicle accident had occurred and was reported on September 4 in the area where the couple's car was found, plus the fact that evidence now reveals that the couple's car was involved in a motor vehicle accident, may I ask the parliamentary secretary whether the Solicitor General has ordered a full inquiry into this incident in order to determine if there was an element of negligence on the part of the investigating body in regard to its failure thoroughly and adequately to investigate all aspects and details surrounding this accident at the time of its occurrence?

Mr. Douglas A. Hogarth (Parliamentary Secretary to Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I shall have to take the question as notice but I can assure the hon. member that a complete inquiry will be made by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

* * *

[Translation]

FINANCE**INCREASE IN INTEREST RATES—POSITION OF
GOVERNMENT**

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Prime Minister a question.

I should like to ask him with all due respect whether financial institutions have increased their interest rate with the government's approval?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have too much respect for the hon. member to reply off-hand, and without consulting with the Minister of Finance.

But, Mr. Speaker, I should simply like to suggest that the hon. member should read again what the Minister of Finance said a few days ago, namely that government action has resulted in a decrease in bank interest rates last week.

* * *

[English]

NATIONAL DEFENCE**REQUEST THAT MEAFORD TANK RANGE SHORELINE BE
MADE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC USE**

Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. In view of the fact that 148 miles of the shoreline between Wiarton and Collingwood are privately owned, leaving only two miles available to the public, will the government take the

[Mr. Jamieson.]

necessary action to make the 12 miles of shoreline within the confines of the tank range available for public use?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I shall have to take a look at this proposition.

* * *

• (1500)

CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**REQUEST THAT COMPULSORY RETIREMENT OF MINERS
AT AGE 60 BE SUSPENDED PENDING DECISION IN COURT
ACTION**

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In view of the fact that the president of the Cape Breton Development Corporation has stated certain matters cannot be dealt with because of litigation before the courts, will the minister ask the president to stop compulsory retirement at age 60 in that this question is also before the courts?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I will look into the statement by the president of the corporation.

Mr. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, without going into great detail as to what the president of DEVCO said—and the minister can check it closely—in view of the fact the question of compulsory retirement at age 60 is now before the courts, does the minister not think the families of Cape Breton miners deserve this protection until the court case is decided?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Of course that is a representation by the hon. member to the minister.

* * *

AGRICULTURE**FROST DAMAGE IN SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO—INQUIRY
AS TO COMPENSATION TO FARMERS**

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. Is he now in a position to make an announcement concerning restitution or any form of payment to the farmers in various parts of southwestern Ontario who had a large part of their crops destroyed by the recent unseasonable frost?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I do not have anything to add to the statement I made in the House yesterday.

Mr. Nesbitt: Mr. Speaker, has the minister received representations from the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Marketing Board, in view of the fact that he failed to turn up at their meeting when he was making his tour to determine the extent of damage suffered by tobacco growers?

Mr. Olson: Mr. Speaker, the statement of the hon. member is incorrect. I met with some officials of the