

Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, concerning his new program of industrial incentives.

Since anxiety prevails in northern Ontario, where people have been awaiting for a long time some assistance that would encourage secondary industries to settle in the area, is the minister in a position to tell the house what regions will be designated, particularly in northern Ontario?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, I am not yet in a position to make an announcement, but I hope I can do it very shortly.

[English]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): I have a question for the Secretary of State, Mr. Speaker. Because of resignations at the National Arts Centre, I ask the Secretary of State whether Mademoiselle Madeleine Gobeil is still a director of the National Arts Centre and have other personal friends of the Prime Minister been appointed?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Broadview.

Mr. MacInnis: Possibly I could put a supplementary to the Prime Minister.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

CRIMINAL LAW REFORM

REPORT OF OUMET COMMISSION

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. Has the minister received a copy of the report of the Oumet Commission on criminal law reform? If so, is it his intention to table same?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): I think under its particular terms of reference that report would be directed to the Solicitor General in the first instance.

Mr. Gilbert: May I direct the same question to the Solicitor General, Mr. Speaker? Has the minister received a copy of the Oumet Commission report on criminal law reform and will he table the same?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I received copies of the

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Inquiries of the Ministry

report in English. When it is translated and available, the question of tabling will be decided. I anticipate it will not be tabled in this part of the session.

HUMAN RIGHTS

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND ONTARIO COMMISSION

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): My question is for the Minister of Labour. Is his department co-operating with and/or having discussions with the Ontario Human Rights Commission in the province of Ontario which is at present investigating charges of discrimination in the national capital area? If so, to what extent? I ask this question notwithstanding the fact there may be some constitutional grounds on which this government feels it should not be involved.

Hon. Bryce S. Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has quite aptly pointed out the constitutional problem. I am sure he will be pleased to know there is the maximum degree of communication between my department and the various agencies charged with this responsibility in the provincial field. There is the maximum degree of co-operation and communication despite constitutional barriers.

Mr. Alexander: A supplementary—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We have just about reached the end of the question period. I hoped the Chair might have the opportunity of recognizing two or three other members quickly.

Mr. Alexander: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, because I have been so quiet for the past three or four days I thought I would have the opportunity to ask a supplementary. Am I to take it from the minister's answer that at the present time during these investigations his department is in dialogue and having consultations with representatives of the Ontario Human Rights Commission?

Mr. Mackasey: I am sure the hon. member will agree with me that no responsible department, federal or provincial, would want to hide behind the constitution in an area as important as discrimination. We are not trying to evade our responsibility. We feel we have a moral obligation to communicate and co-operate with all provinces in this sensitive area.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.