

However, we cannot place people into facilities that do not exist. That is one reason why we, as the federal Government, have the skills growth funding being made available so that provincial Governments, which are responsible for community colleges, can plan and expand facilities in this area. That is why we have put the money forward and have a new National Training Act. This cannot be created overnight and must be worked out in co-operation with the provincial Government.

\* \* \*

● (1440)

### NATIONAL SECURITY

#### CASE OF CANADIAN PROFESSOR—POSSIBLE BREACH OF CRIMINAL CODE

**Mr. David Kilgour (Edmonton-Strathcona):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. The Minister will know that one of the charges laid against Mr. Hambleton was remarkably similar to a charge of treason under our Criminal Code. Will he tell us if the matter was ever referred to the Attorney General of the relevant Province? The minister knows those matters fall within his or her jurisdiction.

**Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada):** Madam Speaker, my understanding is that the matter was not referred to any provincial Attorney General, but that the possible evidence for a charge of treason and the law of treason itself were examined before coming to a tentative conclusion that there would be no possibility of prosecution.

#### REQUEST FOR REFERRAL TO PROVINCIAL ATTORNEY GENERAL

**Mr. David Kilgour (Edmonton-Strathcona):** Madam Speaker, the fact is that the Federal Government usurped the constitutional and legal authority of the Attorney General of the Province in issue and made the decision on its own terms. The horse is certainly out of the barn. Is the Minister now prepared to refer the matter to the appropriate provincial Attorney General for a second opinion?

**Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada):** Madam Speaker, if there is no evidence, there is no evidence.

**Mr. Clark:** He has just been convicted!

\* \* \*

### FINANCE

#### PENALTY FOR PREPAYMENT OF MORTGAGES

**Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton):** Madam Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance, and perhaps the Minister responsible for Housing may have some interest in it. The Interest Act was first enacted in 1886 and it has not been substantially changed in well over 20 years. Section 7 provides that a person can prepay

a mortgage by paying a three month's penalty if the mortgage is more than five years in length. Has the Government given any consideration to changing the Interest Act, especially in these times when people have been caught by high mortgages?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, I will take the question of the Hon. Member as a representation and will consider his suggestion, bearing it in mind in the preparation of the budget. I will consider whether it is possible or advisable to act in this manner. However, in the meantime, I would hope that we will be able to adopt the Income Tax Act which was introduced earlier this week and which contains provision for refunds to several millions of Canadians. I think that would also immediately help Canadians.

#### REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION TO AMEND INTEREST ACT

**Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton):** The question I asked with regard to the Interest Act has nothing whatsoever to do with the budget. It can be enacted tomorrow if the Government wants to bring the legislation forward. It would help people caught in a bind in housing. For example, if they have three year or five year mortgages at 18 per cent or 20 per cent interest rates, by law they cannot pay three months' interest and get out of their mortgage commitments because they are not over five years in duration.

The Interest Act should come under the control of the Minister of Finance. Obviously, the Government has not considered helping home owners by this sort of a step so far, but I am asking whether it would consider it soon, and perhaps bring in legislation to change the Interest Act.

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** I have already answered this question, Madam Speaker.

\* \* \*

### NATIONAL DEFENCE

#### DISAPPEARANCE OF MISSING AIRCRAFT FROM RADAR SCREEN

**Hon. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Defence. Canadian Forces are still looking for the two Starfighter aircraft and the pilots recently lost near Cold Lake. Would the Minister tell the House how these two aircraft were lost from radar view, when Canadian Forces Base Cold Lake is one of the six bases recently equipped with the new terminal radar and control system, at a considerable cost?

**Hon. J. Gilles Lamontagne (Minister of National Defence):** First of all, Madam Speaker, I would like to express my sympathy to the families of the two pilots we have lost. It was a most unfortunate accident. I can assure the House that every possible means of finding them has been put into effect. With regard to the remark of the Hon. Member for Victoria concerning the installation of a new radar system which is called, I