COMMONS DEBATES

Oral Questions

preparations for the Olympic Games. Because of that fact, and the very good possibility of the games being moved to another site, can the Prime Minister advise this House whether he is concerned with the problems being encountered by COJO, Montreal and Quebec. If so, why is he not prepared to take the initiative to get directly involved in assessing the overall situation, perhaps by meeting directly with IOC officials in order to protect the federal government's involvement thus far and perhaps arrive at some satisfactory alternative that Montreal is afraid to take?

• (1440)

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, these questions seem to be quite hypothetical. As far as the government is concerned, we are confident that the olympics will take place in Canada next year.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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FINANCE

PROPOSED REDEMPTION OF PERPETUAL BONDS AT PAR VALUE BY SENIOR CITIZENS

Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. In view of the fact the minister has stated that the perpetual bonds will be redeemed in 20 years, and in view of the fact many holders of these bonds are senior citizens who not only purchased the bonds in good faith but now find themselves in need of 100 per cent return on their investment due to the increasing cost of living, will the minister also keep the faith and permit the original purchasers of these bonds, when they reach the age of 65, to have the bonds redeemed at par value?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the difficulty there is to achieve an equitable way of redeeming the bonds without overly dislocating the market price to the prejudice of those who immediately prior sold their bonds. On the basis of the 20 year redemption, those bonds now carry an effective rate comparable to other bonds.

Mr. Towers: Mr. Speaker, my question was with regard to the original purchasers of the bonds who are now in a deplorable situation. Will the minister give consideration to that group of senior citizens who were the original purchasers of these bonds?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I will not exclude any representations, but I am not too optimistic about the hon. member's submission.

[Mr. Jelinek.]

STATUS OF WOMEN

REFUSAL OF AIR CANADA TO ACCEPT DESIGNATION "MS"— GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo-Cambridge): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare in his role as defender of women's rights. Will the minister get in touch with Air Canada with regard to their practice of insisting that only the designation "Miss" or "Mrs." be used? They will not accept "Ms." as a designation. Will the minister determine why?

[Translation]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I shall be pleased to take the hon. member's recommendation as notice. I shall advise my hon. colleague the Minister of Transport and Air Canada; I am sure they will consider this matter seriously.

[English]

Mr. Saltsman: Can the minister indicate when he expects to complete this dialogue with the Minister of Transport and the Air Canada computer and report back to the House?

[Translation]

Mr. Lalonde: As soon as possible, Mr. Speaker.

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[English]

LABOUR CONDITIONS

DATE OF BAYDA COMMISSION REPORT

Mr. Frank Hamilton (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board. What progress has been made by the Bayda commission which is studying labour problems in the west coast grain handling industry? When can we reasonably expect to see the final report?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, that question should be directed to the Minister of Labour.

Mr. Hamilton (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Labour. What progress has been made by the Bayda commission which is studying the problems of labour unrest in the grain handling industry on the west coast, and when can we reasonably expect to see the final report?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, if my memory serves me right, Mr. Justice Bayda indicated he would have his report ready about mid-July. I will double check and get back to the hon. member.