Oral Questions

Friday, June 27, by the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands? Will the government immediately reinstate Bruce Simpson on the Canadian Olympic team who was sacked for his support of the boycott, and will it call for the resignation of Dick Pound, COA president, for his open support of the games and the firing of a great Canadian, Bruce Simpson?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (**Prime Minister**): Madam Speaker, there are at least ten questions in that question. Under the rules of the House, I will take them one at a time.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Madam Speaker: As a supplementary, perhaps one of the questions could be raised.

Mr. Stewart: May I put it very simply, Madam Speaker? Is the Olympic committee finally going to announce that it is not officially competing, and tell Moscow that it is not?

An hon. Member: That is one question.

Hon. Gerald Regan (Minister of Labour): Madam Speaker, in answer to the question asked by the hon. member, may I say that the question of action by the Canadian Olympic Committee is one for it to determine. The Government of Canada has requested the Canadian Olympic Association to refuse the invitation to participate in the games in Moscow. At a subsequent meeting, the Canadian Olympic Association voted that it would accept that request of the government and that it would not participate.

The question as to whether it has formally or in any particular manner communicated its decision to Moscow is one that could be directed to the Canadian Olympic Association. It is not an affair of the government, since the association is a private sector organization.

ENERGY

OIL DEVELOPMENT OFF NEWFOUNDLAND—AGREEMENT BETWEEN FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber-Port au Port-St. Barbe): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the fact that recent results from extensive testing of the Hibernia well off Newfoundland show that potential for massive oil development is becoming more certain every day, and in view of the fact that industry and market analysts are concerned that a jurisdictional dispute between the federal and provincial governments could delay such potential development, could the minister tell us what steps he has taken to ensure that if necessary an interim agreement can be worked out with the province of Newfoundland, so as not to delay the potential development off the shores of Newfoundland?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Madam Speaker, obviously there is considerable speculation about development in the Hibernia fields. I am afraid those speculations will continue for some time until the developers have scientifically assessed the value of those fields.

I might assure the hon, member that I have already had a meeting with my colleague from Newfoundland. At that time I indicated to him that we were eager to discuss with the government of Newfoundland any administrative arrangement that would be satisfactory to both parties and to the private sector involved in order to ensure the orderly and speedy development of those resources which I am sure will be of great benefit to all Canadians.

AIRPORTS

TORONTO INTERNATIONAL—HARMFUL FUMES AFFECTING EMPLOYEES

Mr. John McDermid (Brampton-Georgetown): Madam Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Transport. My concern is with problems that have arisen recently at gates 78-80 at the Toronto international airport.

Is the minister aware that several employees at the Air Canada-Rapidair station have been taken to hospital for treatment of unidentified ailments rumoured to be caused by fumes in this one area of the airport? Will the minister investigate this matter immediately and make his findings public?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Transport): I will, Madam Speaker.

Mr. McDermid: Madam Speaker, when the minister conducts his investigation, will he inform the Air Canada employees who work in this area, so as to alleviate their fears; and will he also assure the employees who were affected by this mysterious ailment that all workmen's benefits will be available to them?

Mr. Pepin: Madam Speaker, I cannot promise something before making a proper inquiry. If the ailment is so mysterious, maybe it will be mysterious to me also.

Mr. Clark: Most things are.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Pepin: But I will do my utmost to find out the causes and advise my hon. friend accordingly.

NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD

APPLICATION FOR GAS PIPELINE TO NOVA SCOTIA

Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Madam Speaker, I have a question for the minister of energy. Since the govern-