

*Oral Questions*

that a by-law is in contravention of the Indian Act, then I have to obey the law of Parliament as it stands, irrespective of what I may think of it. I think the Hon. Member knows that I think the Indian Act is very much outdated, as I am sure does he.

## ROLE OF PROVINCES

**Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands):** Madam Speaker, the Paul Band in Alberta objects to the Department's attempt to push it into a tri-partite agreement with the Province of Alberta regarding child welfare. Does the Minister not recognize that Indian people want to develop their own child welfare models rather than being forced into the assimilationist apprehension model followed by the different Provinces? Will he now extend to these Bands the right to control their own child welfare instead of trying to extend provincial jurisdiction to Indian reserves?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Madam Speaker, in all of the agreements signed so far it is not a question of extending provincial jurisdiction to Indian reserves which has been the motivation behind the federal Government and the Indian people signing agreements with the Province. The Provinces have indicated they are prepared to lend expertise to the Indian people at their request in order to run services, hire Indian personnel and, in many cases, be supportive financially. It is not a question of forcing the Province or the Indian people. It is a question of three parties entering into an agreement voluntarily.

As far as Alberta is concerned, it is not a question of forcing the Indian people to do anything. If they do not want to sign the agreement, they do not have to sign it. We then bilaterally have to endeavour to do the best we can to attain the same objective. In most cases it was the Indian leadership itself that wanted the Province involved for the reasons I have stated.

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[Translation]

## LABOUR RELATIONS

LABOUR DISPUTE AT TÉLÉ-MÉTROPOLE IN QUEBEC—  
GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Jacques Oliver (Longueuil):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Labour.

The Minister is aware that for more than ten months there has been a very serious labour dispute at Télé-Métropole, a major television station in Quebec. Could the Minister inform the House, first of all, whether following negotiations or meetings with the union or the Company, the Minister would be willing to appoint a special mediator, if both parties were agreeable to finding someone who could resolve this conflict?

Second, would the Minister also be willing to make a commitment to the effect that, as soon as he receives the

consent of both parties, he will appoint a special representative and settle a conflict that has gone on far too long?

**Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Labour):** Madam Speaker, two of my departmental officials have already intervened in this conflict with a view to reaching agreement between the parties concerned. First Mr. Saint-Hilaire, as conciliator and then Mr. Drouin, as mediator. Obviously, if both parties feel that appointing a special mediator or a special investigator would be useful I would be glad to appoint such a person. However, I want to be sure that both parties agree that this is what they want and that the appointment will be useful in helping this matter progress towards a final settlement.

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[English]

## HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

UREA FORMALDEHYDE FOAM INSULATION—TERMINATION OF  
REMOVAL PROGRAM

**Mr. G. M. Gurbin (Bruce-Grey):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. The Government's program to assist people who have urea formaldehyde in their homes terminated as of September 30. Does the Minister feel that this program has fully met the needs of Canadians who have urea formaldehyde in their homes, and is she aware of any difficulties within the program?

**Hon. Judy Erola (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Madam Speaker, there are always difficulties within a program but, by and large, we have dealt with most of these problems very fairly. We treat each case that comes to our attention on a case by case basis. The \$5,000 grant has met the needs of most of those home owners who have been faced with the problem. The latest figure indicates that an average figure of \$4,900-odd is the submission. It is very close to the \$5,000 mark that we have offered to home owners.

## REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF PROGRAM

**Mr. G. M. Gurbin (Bruce-Grey):** Madam Speaker, my supplementary question is for the same Minister. The CHRP Program has been discontinued and can no longer assist home owners. In rural areas the contractors in many cases have not been able to make proper estimations and there have been some real difficulties in getting registered contractors. In view of this, is the Minister considering extending the Program beyond the September 30 date, or would she consider some special measures that would allow people to co-operate in some way in order to make the \$5,000 grant more effective?

● (1500)

**Hon. Judy Erola (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Madam Speaker, no, we do not intend to open up the deadline, which was September 30, but we intend to honour all those submissions made in time for the September 30 deadline.