

by the Professional Institute? Its president wrote a letter to the Solicitor General, backed up by a petition signed 1,400 people concerned, in which she said:

To work competently in a correctional setting requires a repeated, consistent exposure to that environment. An incorrect decision when confronted with a dangerous or life-threatening situation can escalate into tragedy.

That is the opinion of the people who work in the field. So again I ask the Minister if the Government will give up this bizarre idea which is based simply on its ideology that anything done by the private sector is better than that done by the public sector?

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, I do not accept the premise of the Hon. Member's question. The Conservative Party does not have that particular philosophy. As proof positive of that, I think we were the ones who originated the CBC.

Mr. Broadbent: Socialist!

Mr. Hnatyshyn: What can I say?

Mr. Broadbent: Public ownership, holy smoke!

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[Translation]

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

FINANCE MINISTER'S MESSAGE TO WASHINGTON MEETING

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, my question was for the Minister of Finance, but I see that he has had to leave to catch his plane for Washington to meet the other Ministers of Finance of member countries of the International Monetary Fund and the governors of large central banks. I am sure that his Cabinet colleagues will be able to tell us about the main message which Canada plans to give at the meeting of the International Monetary Fund this weekend. I would like to add that the socialists would do better to listen since the only thing they know about financial matters is how to appropriate workers' funds!

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, it is up to me to reply to direct questions such as the one just asked by my friend for Lévis. A large part of the message of the Minister of Finance at the Washington meeting will certainly deal with the need for the developed countries to continue to co-operate to improve the international economic situation, especially as concerns the Third World debt. As the House is well aware, Canada already plays a major role in this regard. We have just announced forgiveness of a large part of the official debt of francophone African countries and there will be a similar statement for anglophone African countries at the Commonwealth Conference in beautiful Vancouver.

Oral Questions

[English]

Mr. Speaker: I should advise Hon. Members that this will be the last question.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS

LUBICON BAND—LAND CLAIM—REQUEST FOR RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane—Superior): My question is directed to the Minister of State for Indian Affairs. I believe that is his title now. It was on September 2 that I again raised in the House the question of the Lubicon Lake Indian Band. The Acting Minister on that date, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, said that a full announcement ought to be made by the Minister himself and that he would advise him to do so.

In view of the serious health problems in that community, in view of the fact that the UN Committee on Human Rights is involved, in view of the fact that there is social disintegration going on at an alarming rate and that this national disgrace is adversely affecting our otherwise good publicity and plans for the Calgary Olympics, is the Minister prepared today or, at the latest, early next week, to make an announcement that the negotiations will be resumed and that the Government will use a report prepared for it by E. Davie Fulton, especially that clause which says all the people in the band should be included in the settlement, not half of them only?

Hon. Bernard Valcourt (Minister of State (Small Businesses and Tourism) and Minister of State (Indian Affairs and Northern Development)): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member in his question touches on a whole range of topics which are of interest to the Lubicon Lake Indian Band. He knows the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has expressed his hope that negotiations will recommence, and it is the intention of the Minister to announce the nomination of a negotiator pretty soon in order to ensure that those negotiations can start again.

FRAMEWORK FOR NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane—Superior): I wonder if the Minister would simply explain to the House how the Government can justify excluding half of the band's members from a land settlement? Will he tell us today that in appointing this negotiator he will also make use of the services of the Hon. E. Davie Fulton as a third person mediator in this tragic dispute?

Hon. Bernard Valcourt (Minister of State (Small Businesses and Tourism) and Minister of State (Indian Affairs and Northern Development)): Mr. Speaker, I do not think we will change the policy of the Government re land claims. We will not negotiate on the floor of the House. We will leave that to the negotiator.