

Since his return to Ottawa, has the minister looked into the complaints made by some residents of St. John's, Newfoundland, about the searches made by the RCMP aboard foreign ships which load supplies in the harbour of that city, searches which endanger trade at St. John's?

[English]

SPORTS

AID TO HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the statement made in Winnipeg yesterday by Mr. Charles Hay, President of Hockey Canada, to the effect that a program to improve the quality of hockey in Canada would be commenced immediately, with emphasis on high school hockey, can the minister state whether consideration is being given to additional funds for Hockey Canada for this purpose?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON AREA DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In view of the growing rate of unemployment, especially in the slow growth areas, and the minister's responsibility in relation thereto, would the minister make a statement on motions regarding the area development incentive programs presently under way or planned so that the House may involve itself in this very important subject?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member probably knows that several programs are aimed at reducing unemployment and creating jobs.

For his information, since January 1969, there have been four times as many projects approved by my department as compared with 1968. There are four times as many new jobs, nearly 18,000 a year. I think—

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I believe the question asked by the hon. member was

Inquiries of the Ministry

whether a statement could be made on motions. I do not think the statement should be made at this time.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, may I repeat my question to the minister and ask whether he will make a statement on motions on this important subject?

Mr. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order which arises from the fact the minister answered the original question. I therefore do not see why the hon. member should be denied the opportunity of asking a supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. If the hon. member will kindly consult the rules and precedents he will realize that, fortunately or unfortunately, supplementary questions are at the discretion of the Chair. I have indicated before that when we are running short of time we really ought to reduce the number of supplementary questions and go on with other matters.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

DELAY IN PUBLICATION OF MENTAL HEALTH STATISTICS

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe East): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Has the minister received any complaints regarding the long delay in the publication of Mental Health Statistics, volumes 1 and 2, which were to have been used as future guidelines but which are now rapidly becoming ancient history? Can the minister give us any idea as to when these publications will appear?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge I have not received any complaints.

Mr. Rynard: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister look into the matter and see when these volumes will appear. That information is three years old now.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

MIDDLE EAST—OFFER OF ASSISTANCE IN RESOLVING ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In his discussions with Mrs. Meir and Mr. Nasser, did he make any direct offer of the good