Inquiries of the Ministry

statement on motions.

Mr. Speaker: I suggest to the hon. member-and again we do not appear to be making much headway—that according to the rules the minister does not have to answer the question at all. Perhaps that is not a very good policy to follow, but it is not a point of order to say the question has not been answered, or has not been answered to the satisfaction of the member who asked it.

[Translation]

SPORTS

1976 SUMMER OLYMPICS—FINANCIAL PARTICI-PATION OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT-TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Acting Prime Minister.

Since some hon, members have showing some concern about the federal government share in the expenditures involved in the Summer Olympic Games that will be held in Montreal in 1976 and since it has been alleged that the Prime Minister has informed the city of Montreal authorities that no subsidy would be granted, would the Acting Prime Minister say when the government has sent to the city of Montreal confirmation of this decision and to whom precisely it has been directed?

[English]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister wrote to the Mayor of Montreal on May 21, 1969, informing him of the Canadian government's position.

Mr. David Anderson (Esquimalt-Saanich): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that the brief the city of Montreal presented to the International Olympic Association, which led to the awarding of the games to Montreal, stated there would be \$120 million of federal money available to the city from CMHC to build housing for officials and athletes, would the acting minister responsible for housing indicate whether this money indeed has been requested by the city of Montreal, and whether indeed there have been any negotiations with the city on this particular sum of money?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, my recollection Prime Minister if the Minister of Supply and

[Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands).]

say he is prepared to give an answer to the is that several weeks ago the minister respon-House, or the minister himself will make a sible for housing answered in the negative to both of those questions. I will make an inquiry to see if there is a change in that situation.

[Translation]

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the Acting Prime Minister.

Could he inform the House about the correspondence that has been exchanged between the federal government and the city of Montreal on this subject?

[English]

Mr. Sharp: Yes, Mr. Speaker, in principle I would be prepared to do that. I would think it would be courteous to ask the Mayor of Montreal for his consent, but in principle I think we would be able to get his consent and would be prepared to table it.

WESTERN CANADA TRAINING CAMPS FOR 1976 OLYMPIC TRIALS

Mr. Barney Danson (York North): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Acting Prime Minister if the government would consider setting up summer training camps for promising Olympic calibre athletes in western Canada, and holding the 1976 Olympic trials in Vancouver?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the Olympic trials and similar activities are carried on by the sports organizations themselves, sometimes supported by the federal government. However, I will see that this suggestion is brought to the attention of the responsible minister to see if it could be incorporated in any arrangements in the coming years.

Mr. Danson: A supplementary question. Would the Acting Prime Minister give the same consideration to holding the winter Olympic trials at Banff, Lake Louise or Garibaldi?

Mr. Sharp: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

CANADIAN CONFEDERATION

PROPOSED UNIFICATION OF PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Acting