Mr. Stevens: My supplementary question to the minister arises out of a report yesterday in UPI which stated:

• (1427)

Finance Minister Jean Chrétien says he has \$100 million he can't give away.

That is referring to the employment tax credit bill. Can the minister indicate to the House when the bill is forthcoming, how many jobs will be affected by the provisions in that bill, assuming it will receive prompt passage in this House?

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, I hope this program will create at least 50,000 new jobs next year.

Mr. Stevens: Mr. Speaker, assuming the minister can introduce the bill forthwith and assuming there is early passage of that legislation, would he indicate when job creation will be felt, if the bill is passed before we recess? What is the earliest opportunity for people to receive work as a result of his new bill?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I realize the minister is anxious to answer that type of question, but I caution the House that we are beginning to get far afield. We are anticipating legislation, and in addition, we are beginning to put hypothetical questions. However, I will let it go.

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, the bill cannot be ready before next week. When we started Bill C-11, the hon. member said that second reading was to be three or four days, and it lasted three weeks. Thus, I cannot rely on him very much.

Mr. Stevens: That is not true.

Some hon. Members: That is not true.

RESEARCH

INQUIRY AS TO PROGRAMS TO STIMULATE DEVELOPMENT OF MANUFACTURING SECTOR

Mr. J. Robert Howie (York-Sunbury): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Science and Technology. Given Canada's trade deficit for last year in excess of \$10 billion in manufactured goods, heading for \$11.5 billion this year; and in view of our reliance on technological advantage to enable Canadian products to compete in world markets, is the minister going to introduce any new programs or incentives to stimulate research and development in the manufacturing sector of the economy to promote greater efficiency, expand our export trade and put more Canadians to work?

Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, there are measures contained in the bill which my colleague, the Minister of Finance, is dealing with in the House now. These measures provide investment tax credits of five per cent and 10 per cent for research and development. In addition, we have

Oral Questions

our contracting out policy which we are extending to deal with this matter. I share the hon, member's concern. The level in the Canadian industrial sector is dismally low and should be significantly increased.

DELAY OF APPOINTMENTS TO MEDICAL, SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING COUNCILS

Mr. J. Robert Howie (York-Sunbury): Mr. Speaker, is the decision to delay for over half a year the appointment of the president of the Medical Research Council and the president and members of the Natural Science and Engineering Council considered an encouraging move? When are they to be appointed?

Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, as far as the Natural Science and Engineering Council is concerned, we hope it will be in the very near future. As far as the Medical Research Council is concerned, I would prefer the Minister of National Health and Welfare to respond.

Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I am in the process of reviewing some candidacies for the presidency of the Medical Research Council. I realize the urgency of such an appointment. No delay has ever been decided upon, as suggested.

[Translation]

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

REQUEST FOR LIST OF EXPENSES OF McDONALD COMMISSION AND OPPOSITION TO KEABLE COMMISSION

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. Could he disclose to the House the amounts of money which have been spent up till now for legal fees and other judicial costs in relation to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, in his department's unsuccessful attempt to oppose the Keable Commission and the honest disclosure of all circumstances surrounding the action of the RCMP special group responsible for uncovering any so-called subversive activities?

Hon. Francis Fox (Solicitor General): First of all I want to tell the hon. member that all documents in our possession and related to allegations of questionable or possibly illegal practices have already been referred to the commission established by the federal government precisely to investigate RCMP activities, practices and procedures. It is therefore extremely difficult to accept the premise of the hon. member's question that we are trying to hide something when every document in our possession and every allegation directed to us have already been referred to a commission of inquiry headed by a judge from the Supreme Court of the Province of Alberta. As for the amounts for legal services, I obviously do not have the figures here. Those are matters which are being considered before the courts, and the services of the lawyers involved are paid for by