

*Proposals Respecting Wage Restraints*

asks about "any scheme for imposing wage and price controls".

**Mr. Baldwin:** Read it all.

**Mr. Trudeau:** If you flip the page instead of flipping your top you see that on page 7714 the Leader of the NDP comes in with another question "regarding the imposition of wage controls or the imposition of any tax on wage gains to keep them in line—".

There were not in Winnipeg, as far as I know, any such proposals. I fail to see how either hon. member can establish a prima facie case by saying, "No, we had no knowledge that there would be such an imposition", because in fact there was none.

**Mr. Baldwin:** There are no extenuating circumstances.

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to go a step farther than that because I was asked a question earlier in the week about whether the government was going to make proposals with respect to wage guidelines and so on, and I indicated that the government was not. The situation is that Dr. Young is the head of the Prices and Incomes Commission which has done a very useful job in Canada in obtaining commitments on the side of business and has tried to obtain commitments on the side of Labour. As an independent commissioner he also approached governments, and I specify here not only the government of Canada but the governments of the provinces as well, and made a proposal which he presented at Winnipeg and which this government chose to accept.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** And the government did not know of it before?

**Mr. Benson:** One of the things the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre has tried to say is that the Prices and Incomes Commission is directed by the government of Canada.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** And are they not?

**Mr. Benson:** This is not the case.

**Mr. Orlikow:** That is a lie.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Benson:** On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, somebody has called me a liar.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

[Mr. Trudeau.]

**Some hon. Members:** Withdraw!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. No member has the right to say that another member, whether he is a minister or not, has uttered a lie.

As hon. members know, the Minister of Finance has the floor. If there are interventions which do not come to the attention of the Chair, it is difficult to call on the member to give an explanation or withdraw. As far as the Chair is concerned, the Minister of Finance has the floor. If someone rises and suggests that another member has told a lie he must, of course, withdraw that statement. If any member rises and does this, he will be in contravention of the rules of the House and called upon to withdraw. For the moment the Minister of Finance has the floor.

**Mr. Benson:** I wish to indicate that the intervention was by the hon. member for Winnipeg North (Mr. Orlikow).

**Some hon. Members:** Shame!

**Mr. Benson:** I request that the hon. member withdraw that intervention.

**Mr. Orlikow:** Mr. Speaker, I am the member to whom the minister is referring. I recognize that the language I used was not parliamentary and I will withdraw it. However, I say to the minister that I do not believe—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. It is the hon. member's right to believe or disbelieve statements made by other hon. members, although as a community we are required to accept the truth of statements by members.

**Mr. Benson:** The plain fact, Mr. Speaker, is that Dr. Young made proposals to each of the provincial governments and the federal government. The federal government chose at Winnipeg to accept those proposals. I reiterate that this is an independent commission. It is not controlled by the government. We did not make suggestions to the commissioners as to the proposals they should make. They consulted the government in the same way they consulted the provincial governments. I am pleased, for the sake of Canada, that all the governments to a degree are going to support the proposals of Dr. Young.

**Mr. Speaker:** Perhaps we should not get involved in the substance of the matter referred to by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre and the hon. member for Peace River. The decision to be made on the subject before the Chair is purely procedural. The