

Inquiries of the Ministry
THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

**FOREIGN OWNERSHIP—TIME OF STATEMENT ON
 GOVERNMENT POSITION**

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I want to address my question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that today is the last day before the summer recess, can the Prime Minister inform the House whether we may expect a statement on foreign ownership, which the government is studying and has promised to promulgate, during the summer recess or very early in the fall?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): If it is ready during the summer, Mr. Speaker, we will state our policy at that time. If not, we will state it to the House in the fall.

Mr. Horner: And if not in the fall, in the winter.

Mr. Lewis: May I ask the Prime Minister whether he expects to have his policy decided at the latest by the time Parliament resumes sitting on September 7 and also whether energy resources are included in the study?

Mr. Trudeau: We shall do our best to get a statement out as soon as possible. The contents, will, of course, be made known to the public at the time of the statement.

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Is it to be understood from the Prime Minister's statement at a recent press conference that the cabinet is now studying the document prepared by the Minister of National Revenue?

Mr. Trudeau: The document is now in cabinet hands, Mr. Speaker.

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[Translation]

MANPOWER

**ALLEGED AVAILABILITY OF JOBS IN NORTHERN
 MANITOBA**

Mr. Roland Godin (Porineuf): Mr. Speaker, I have a question I wish to direct to the Prime Minister.

Whereas he did urge young people from southern Ontario to go look for employment in northern Manitoba and whereas the Manpower Centres in Quebec City and in Ottawa are unable to give information to the young unemployed living in other areas of the country, would the Prime Minister tell the House where exactly these jobs are available?

Mr. Speaker: In my opinion, this question as worded is out of order.

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[English]

ECONOMIC COUNCIL OF CANADA

**STATEMENT BY DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE RESPECT-
 ING EFFECTIVENESS—GOVERNMENT POSITION**

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): My question is to the Minister of Finance and is related to the motion I

[Mr. Sharp.]

sought to move earlier today. Would the Minister of Finance tell the House whether he authorized the Deputy Minister of Finance to make the statement he made with regard to the Economic Council of Canada and whether he approves of it? Just what is the situation with regard to the Economic Council and what is the government's view as to its effectiveness?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Contrary to what the hon. member said, I was not present when the words said to have been uttered by the Deputy Minister of Finance were used and I would have to look at the transcript to see exactly what he did say.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): The minister was present at the session of the Senate committee. Did he authorize the deputy minister to make any statement with regard to the validity or value of the Economic Council of Canada?

Mr. Benson: No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Has the minister discussed this matter with his deputy since it was reported and, if so, what action does he propose to take? Is the government prepared to accept the resignation of the chairman of the Economic Council?

Mr. Benson: This is the first I have heard of the matter. I will have to read the transcript of the evidence given to the committee.

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AGRICULTURE

**DECLINE IN FARM CASH RECEIPTS—DISCUSSIONS WITH
 PROVINCES ON EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. In light of the fact that farm cash receipts for the first quarter of 1971 are down by 5.8 per cent for the whole of Canada, compared with the corresponding quarter of 1970, is the minister considering the initiation of discussions with the provincial Ministers of Agriculture with a view to providing emergency income assistance to farmers nationally?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): We are not contemplating a meeting exactly in those terms but I shall be meeting with the provincial Ministers of Agriculture on July 21, I believe.

Mr. MacLean: In view of the fact that farm cash receipts in some provinces are down by much more than the figure I have quoted—in Prince Edward Island they have fallen by some 20 per cent—what action has the government taken to arrange discussions with the government of the United Kingdom with a view to protecting the interests of Canadian farm producers in profitable markets in the event of the United Kingdom joining the Common Market?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It seems to me this question was asked just a few days ago.