

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

I think I have already announced to several members belonging to different parties in the house that the government is now seriously considering a number of recommendations that have come in from different parts of Canada as a result of the 11 or 12 urban renewal and housing symposia which we held across the country last year and the year before. We have received some very constructive and worth-while suggestions, among them one as to what more might be done to improve certain areas that could hardly be described as urban development areas, and also that work might be done on existing houses in older sections of our cities.

The government has reached no conclusions on these recommendations. I have agreed to meet with some members of the house and officials of the Corporation to discuss suggestions of this kind. I would be very glad to do so with other groups interested, but before these proposals can become law they must first be discussed with all of the different provinces. I must also say that I am personally sympathetic to the suggestion that public housing that was built 10 or 15 years ago, when there was no possibility for providing recreational facilities, should be considered in this respect since these facilities can be provided today for new public housing projects. I cannot say what the government's action will be but I can assure the hon. member, and any other members interested, that if proposals of that kind are put forward in the way they were put forward by the hon. member tonight, they will receive serious consideration.

PUBLIC SERVICE—PRINTING BUREAU  
EMPLOYEES ENGAGED IN  
PRIVATE PRINTING

• (10:30 p.m.)

**Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce):** Mr. Speaker, initially I must say that I apologize to the minister for keeping him here this evening, because of the personal situation of which I am well aware. However, I did ask this question today on orders of the day. It is regrettable that an answer was not allowed because I am sure the minister had one. I believe the implications that are evident and to which I referred, appearing in the Canadian Press dispatch, would warrant a reply by the minister. The question I asked today was: Does the minister condone permanent employees of the Queen's Printer to be directors of or directly interested in a private printing syndicate outside the function of the

[Mr. Nicholson.]

Queen's Printer? This evening I intend to elaborate a little in that regard in presenting this question again to the minister.

In addition to the objectives of the company, as referred to in the minister's answer to a question on the order paper, what other fields of lending is this company interested or involved in? I would appreciate an answer to these questions at this time.

**Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry):** Mr. Speaker, perhaps the best thing I can do is outline as briefly as possible the facts of the situation. I think when the facts are outlined the hon. member will accept that any suggestion or imputation that people have behaved wrongly, or that there is any criticism to be offered of the public service is quite unwarranted.

In brief, in the month of April, 1961, a small investment club was formed in Hull with a membership of 21, of whom 12 were employees of the Canadian Government Printing Bureau in Hull. The club receives periodic subscriptions from its members and makes investments as a club, as outlined in the answer to Question No. 329, at page 1142 of *Hansard*. Among other investments made was an investment in a commercial firm operating under the name of Imprimerie Gasparo Ltée.

As a consequence of this investment three of the directors of this firm are also employees of the Canadian Government Printing Bureau. These three are Mr. Marquis, foreman compositor linotype, Mr. Hould, a hand compositor in the bureau and Mr. Cousineau, a hand compositor.

The Canadian Government Printing Bureau has no interest in, or does it award any commercial contracts for government printing. It has no power to grant contracts. The firm of Gasparo Ltée. in mid-1964 made an application to the Department of Defence Production for qualification as a competitive tenderer for government printing. Following the usual procedure this qualification was accorded or approved. Following this qualification invitations to tender were sent to this firm Gasparo Ltée., among others. Of all competitive tenders in 1965 the Gasparo Ltée. firm was awarded four contracts amounting in total to \$338.27. In addition one contract in the amount of \$12.21 was negotiated, as provided for in the regulations of the Department of Defence Production. This firm does an annual business of some \$21,000.

I suggest this relationship between the competitive government contracts in the