

Oral Questions

In view of the uncertain situation surrounding the preparation of the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal and in view of the fact that the very reputation of the whole country is at stake, would he tell the House whether he intends to take special action in order to ensure the success of this project?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to say previously that the federal government would be willing under the present circumstances to support the Quebec government should the latter need it; however, as I have indicated yesterday, we feel that the Quebec government is now taking the necessary steps to solve the matter and, for the time being, I have no other special measure to announce.

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● (1120)

[English]

SOCIETY FOR STUDY OF HERITAGE OF CANADA**FUNDING OF SOCIETY BY DEPARTMENT OF SECRETARY OF STATE**

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State. Could the minister advise the House if the Society for the Study of the Heritage of Canada was approached by his department with an offer of funding or assistance of any kind?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I will be giving a rather complete answer on Tuesday concerning the involvement of my department with the society. We did fund, I think, three senior citizen projects. The details of this I will provide the House on Tuesday.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the minister, in making his statement which I hope will be comprehensive, will include an answer to the specific question I asked which is whether his department approached the society with regard to an offer.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the Minister of National Revenue who seems to have fled the scene. With your permission, perhaps I might file a caveat to ask it when he returns if I could be recognized then.

REASON DEPARTMENT CONTINUED TO DEAL WITH SOCIETY IN LIGHT OF WARNINGS

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the minister if in the course of the statement he will give on Tuesday he intends to tell the House why his department continued to deal with the society when as long ago as December 1974 the Government of Ontario was warning its school boards that they ought not to deal with this organization in view of the precarious position in which it found itself. Will he be dealing with this in the course of his statement?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think such questions really anticipate what the minister has already said, that he will

[Mr. Matte.]

be making a statement on Tuesday, and in light of our new procedure which allows for questions after the statement, perhaps questions on this subject ought to be held until the minister makes his statement on Tuesday.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY**INFLATION—PERCENTAGE CAUSED BY WORLDWIDE FACTORS AS COMPARED TO DOMESTIC FACTORS**

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance. I wonder whether the minister could inform the House what percentage of inflation in this country is caused by the worldwide factors to which he just referred and what percentage does the feel is caused due to domestic factors to which his consensus program is aimed?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, it is difficult to be precise about that because of the factors involved. Underlying the hon. gentleman's question is the assumption that the inflationary situation is the same in 1975 as it was in 1973 and 1974. In 1973 and 1974 the fundamental thrust of inflation was a worldwide imbalance in supply and demand reflected in a doubling of commodity prices, an extreme rise in food prices, and a quadrupling of the structural price of oil. In 1975, beginning in the last quarter of 1974, the thrust now is on the cost-push side.

Mr. Gillies: It is precisely the same.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): It is not precisely the same, Mr. Speaker. The remedy suggested by the hon. member for Don Valley, accepted by his leader in 1973-74, was the wrong remedy at the wrong time, recognizing the wrong factors.

INFLATION—REQUEST FOR OUTLINE OF MEASURES TO CURTAIL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the minister has admitted that probably the largest single factor in increasing inflation in this country is out of control government expenditures at all levels, including the federal government, I wonder whether he could specifically indicate what steps he is taking to encourage other levels of government to restrain themselves, and also could he specifically outline now, or on a statement on motions if he prefers, what specific steps the federal government is taking to curtail its expenditures?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I do not recall saying what the hon. gentleman has incorporated in his preamble.

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HOUSING**REASON FOR CANCELLATION OF MEETING WITH PROVINCIAL MINISTERS**

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of