

EXPO '70—COST TO GOVERNMENT

*Inquiries of the Ministry*Question No. 362—**Mr. Howe:**

1. What is the total sum set aside by the federal Treasury to pay the cost of Canada's participation in EXPO '70, Osaka, Japan?

2. What is the cost of the building programme, the musical and entertainment programme and the social programme?

3. Have grants been made to individuals or organizations who have been invited to participate in this Exposition and, if so, what are the names of the individuals or organizations and the amount of the grant provided?

Return tabled.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS**

FEBRUARY CONFERENCE—DISCLOSURE OF PROPOSALS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, in light of the statements yesterday by the Minister of Finance I would like to ask the Prime Minister when is it the intention of the government to disclose the proposals it intends to make to the premiers of the provinces in relation to the forthcoming federal-provincial conference?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): To disclose to the House?

Mr. Stanfield: No, to the provincial governments.

Mr. Trudeau: I am not quite sure if I understand the question correctly, Mr. Speaker, but I have been in correspondence with the premiers of the provinces in relation to this conference and we are in the process of agreeing on an agenda and on a format for the conference.

Mr. Stanfield: But is it the intention of the Prime Minister to lay before the provinces, prior to the conference, the proposals that the federal government intends to make in connection with the agenda?

Mr. Trudeau: For some of the items, yes, Mr. Speaker, the proposals will be put to them. One is in the form of a white paper by the Minister of Finance, and another is by way of a report of the Tax Structure Committee. There will be certain documents given to the participants in the meeting.

Mr. Stanfield: Is it the intention that the agenda and these documents will be made public prior to the conference?

Mr. Trudeau: We will follow the usual practice, Mr. Speaker. As regards the agenda, if the premiers want to make the agenda public we will do so. It will depend on whether the meetings are private or public, or partly private and in part public. I repeat that I am in correspondence with the premiers. Until there is final agreement on this I do not want to commit myself because, as the hon. member no doubt realizes, there is a great deal of consultation involved.

Mr. Stanfield: One further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the government of Canada willing to make public its proposals to the provinces prior to the conference if the provinces have no objection to this?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, when the conference is a public conference and when the documents are meant to be public, what we have done in the past has been to get agreement by all parties that any province, or the federal government, wanting to make its proposals public could do so on a date agreed upon by all parties, generally a week in advance. In this particular case the question is a bit hypothetical because, as I say, there is no final agreement yet, and I have not heard from all the provinces on the final wording of the agenda or on the format of the conference.

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, with reference to the remarks of the Minister of Finance dealing in particular with anti-inflationary proposals that the government may wish to make. Is it the government's intention to disclose these to the provinces in ample time for the provinces to study them and engage in a meaningful dialogue in order to deal with the problem effectively at an early date?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, even there we cannot make any commitment because the course of the conference will in large degree depend on the results obtained by the Prices and Incomes Commission. As the hon. member knows—it has been said in the House previously—the Prices and Incomes Commission is aiming toward a date in late January or early February. Therefore I am not sure what time we will have between the two events to engage in what the hon. member