

nesses and Tourism. According to an article that appeared in Monday's edition of the newspaper *La Presse*, the Quebec Minister of Industry, Tourism and Trade stated that small- and medium-sized business in Quebec were at the bottom of the scale, as far as assistance through federal export development programs was concerned. Could the minister inform us whether that is the case, and if so why, and if not, why do we have this statement by his Quebec counterpart, who, although he has thirteen corporations to think about, might have found the time to promote the Quebec private sector a little more?

Hon. Charles Lapointe (Minister of State (Small Businesses and Tourism)): Madam Speaker, I want to thank the hon. member for his question. I read the article which appeared in yesterday's *La Presse*, and I was rather surprised at what it said. This is probably, and unfortunately, just one more case of Quebec government members not having the slightest idea of what they are talking about. After reading the article, I checked the facts, and I found, for instance, that under the export development assistance program, in 1980-81, Quebec received 34 per cent of all the grants in this area, and a little over 26 per cent in 1981-82. In the case of projects financed by the Export Development Corporation, Madam Speaker, in 1981-82, Quebec is receiving over 36 per cent of the Corporation's expenditures on this type of financing. Consequently, I think my colleague, the Quebec Minister of Industry and Trade, should have done his homework first.

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[English]

FINANCE

INQUIRY RESPECTING CONTENT OF FORTHCOMING BUDGET

Hon. Michael Wilson (Etobicoke Centre): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. The minister today has made quite an incredible admission. He has effectively withdrawn his November budget, without that budget even being laid before the House in the form of legislation. I believe that is the first time that has ever happened, that a budget has died on the Order Paper like that. Will there be a new Ways and Means motion? Will the minister be withdrawing, in effect, his total budget of November 12, and be superseding that with a totally new set of policies to fight inflation, to increase employment, and to stabilize the Canadian dollar?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, I think the hon. member's history is quite incorrect. He told the House last week that he had spent his life in the marketplace, and knew a lot about it. I could never say that, but I have spent most of my life in the House of Commons. I know from my experience that what the hon. member has said about tax legislation and budgets is quite incorrect. He ought to check up on his facts.

Oral Questions

NATURE OF WAYS AND MEANS MOTION

Hon. Michael Wilson (Etobicoke Centre): Madam Speaker, the minister has not answered the question I put to him. It is a question of great importance to Canadians who have been labouring under the measures that he put before the House last November. Will there be a totally new Ways and Means motion that supersedes the budget proposals put forward in November of last year? Will this be a total withdrawal? Will it be a new set of directions for the country that he is going to propose to the Canadian people on Monday night next?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, as I told his colleague a moment ago, I think the hon. member will have to wait until Monday night and hear what will be said on that occasion.

QUERY RESPECTING STATUS OF 1981 BUDGET

Hon. Bill Jarvis (Perth): Madam Speaker, it is the same minister who brought havoc to this country on November 12 last, robbed people of their jobs in my riding and in the ridings of all his colleagues, and who has compounded it by having seven months of uncertainty, with 28 changes. The people of this country do not have to put up with six more days of uncertainty. Is that November 12 budget dead? Has it reached the death it so richly deserved? Is it now in the ash can where it should have been in the first place? That is the question.

Madam Speaker: The hon. member for Durham-Northumberland.

EXTENT OF BUDGET DEBATE

Hon. Allan Lawrence (Durham-Northumberland): Madam Speaker, my question is also for the Minister of Finance. Will the Minister of Finance guarantee that the government will not attempt to close down this House at least until we have a full opportunity of seeing all the details of the budget and having a full debate in regard to resolutions and budget bills, before it attempts to gag us and trot us out of here for the summer?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, I think the hon. member should direct his question to the President of the Privy Council. My experience has been that it is not the government that has the last word in closing the House; it is usually the opposition.

● (1450)

PRESENTATION OF LEGISLATION

Hon. Allan Lawrence (Durham-Northumberland): Madam Speaker, with the unprecedented new budget coming within seven months of the old one at a time when we have not even seen some of the budget resolutions from the old budget, can we have a guarantee that at least with the new budget we will have those resolutions and budget bills within a matter of a