

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that it is not good form to simply ask whether a telegram has been received.

Mr. MacDonald (Prince): Perhaps I could rephrase my question, Mr. Speaker, and ask the Minister of National Defence if he has informed the premier and the mayor of Summerside whether they could have such a meeting this week, at which they might consider the future of the Canadian forces base at Summerside.

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): I have not so informed them, Mr. Speaker, because I have not yet received such a request.

[Later:]

Mr. MacDonald (Prince): Mr. Speaker, a few moments ago the Minister of National Defence indicated that communication perhaps was not functioning too well between himself and the premier of Prince Edward Island. I wonder whether he could assure the house that no steps have yet been taken which would permanently affect the future of the Canadian forces base in Summerside.

Mr. Cadieux (Terrebonne): No steps have been taken yet.

FINANCE**SMALL BUSINESSES—SUGGESTED AMENDMENT OF LOAN INTEREST RATE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct this question to the Minister of Finance. Will the minister indicate to the house when he might consider amending the interest rate on loans pertaining to small businesses, so that applications for loans by these people might be given favourable consideration?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It seems to me this is a repetition of a question asked last week.

MANPOWER**SUPERVISORY JURISDICTION FOR STURGEON FALLS AND TRI-TOWN CENTRES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Has a decision been reached as to the supervisory jurisdiction for

[Mr. MacDonald (Prince).]

the tri-town and Sturgeon Falls manpower centres?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that this question should be placed on the order paper.

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY**HEATING OIL AND GASOLINE—REPORTED PRICE INCREASES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Bud Germa (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. It arises out of certain disturbances over the week end at gasoline retail outlets in the city of Sudbury and is related to a question put to the minister earlier regarding an increase in gasoline prices. At that time the minister said his department was investigating the matter. Is the minister now in a position to make a report to the house regarding the increase in gasoline and fuel oil prices?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I have been following the situation with some care. I am not really in a position yet to report to the house. The inquiries are still continuing; it is a very complicated situation.

AIR CANADA**WINNIPEG—TRANSFER OF EMPLOYEES FROM BASE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. L. R. Sherman (Winnipeg South): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Transport. In view of the great anxiety in Manitoba and the many transfers still taking place from the Air Canada base there, can the minister tell the house what he meant by his recent reference to "alternatives" for the Winnipeg overhaul base?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that the question as put is not in order.

Mr. Sherman: I will rephrase my question, Mr. Speaker. I ask the Minister of Transport whether his department has in its possession new information regarding Air Canada's future plans or possible alternatives for the Winnipeg base.

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, we have up to date information at all times. I did not think it would really be