

*Inquiries of the Ministry***WELFARE****PROJECTIONS OF INCREASED COSTS BECAUSE OF GOVERNMENT MONETARY AND FISCAL POLICIES**

Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina): My question is for the Minister of Finance. Did the government develop projections of the increased welfare costs the cities and provinces would have to shoulder as a result of the restrictive monetary and fiscal policies the government followed to fight inflation? If so, will the government table these projections for this winter?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, without accepting the precept—the premise of the hon. member's question, the government estimates what its share will be under the Canada Assistance Plan, which is 50 per cent of welfare costs. These figures are tabled in the estimates.

Mr. Ryan: I wish to make it clear that I am not in the habit of issuing precepts. Those come from the government, perhaps a little too frequently and too harshly. Is it the position of the government that this burden on the provinces and cities is of no concern to the federal government?

Mr. Benson: Not at all, Mr. Speaker. We pay 50 per cent of the costs.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION**INCENTIVE GRANT TO STANFIELD'S, LIMITED**

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): I have an urgent and pressing question for the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Will the minister undertake to table all correspondence and representations made to him and his department regarding the recent awarding of a regional development incentive grant of \$67,000 to the Stanfield underwear company of Truro, Nova Scotia?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**ISRAELI-ARAB CONFLICT—CANADIAN POSITION ON EGYPTIAN PEACE PROPOSAL**

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs and it relates to the continuing difficult situation in the Middle East. Can the minister inform the House whether or not the Canadian government has taken any position on the recent peace proposal of the Egyptian government, and can the minister indicate, either now or later in a statement on motions, what is the position of the Canadian government with respect to that proposal?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first part of the

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

question is that the Canadian government has not been asked for its views. Negotiations have been proceeding through Ambassador Jarring and we hope the outcome will be successful. I think we are all a little more encouraged today than we were yesterday by the developments that have taken place. As I say, we have not been consulted directly, and there is no particular reason why we should take a position as between Israel and the Arab countries. Our hope is that Ambassador Jarring will succeed.

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, since I think the minister would agree that the proposal presently under discussion is more than just a proposal that is representative of only one side of the question, will the government be taking any steps to initiate discussions, either bilaterally or multilaterally, on this important question, and perhaps more specifically with the government of Israel?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, we have entrusted Ambassador Jarring with this delicate task and I think he should be left to carry on. He is a very skilful negotiator and we wish him every success.

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AGRICULTURE**EXPORT OF BROILER CHICKENS—EXTENSION OF TENDER CLOSING DATE**

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. To try to solve one side of the chicken and egg war, has the government agreed to buy up broilers in the last several weeks?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, about two weeks ago—I do not recall the exact date—we called for tenders for the export of broilers from Canada.

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the fact that broilers are at least being considered for purchase under a government subsidization program, can the minister say whether or not the government is considering a similar proposal for surplus eggs from Manitoba?

Mr. Olson: Mr. Speaker, at the present time broilers are not under a support program. Eggs are under a continuing support program of 28.5 cents a dozen on the national weighted average. I should also advise the hon. member that only very recently there has been a rather large volume of eggs exported from Canada. There has been no export of broilers from Canada during the past few months.

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the fact that the time for tendering for broilers was extended by one week, could the minister advise the House when the result of the tenders will be published and the successful tenderer named?