

• (1430)

### FINANCE

#### STEPS TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE DOMESTIC RESERVES OF GOLD IN LIGHT OF HIGH DEMAND

**Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Minister of Finance in the absence of the minister. In recognition of the current high demand for gold in Europe and elsewhere, and in view of the current high free market price for this commodity, what steps is the government of Canada taking to maintain adequate domestic reserves?

**Hon. P. M. Mahoney (Minister of State):** Mr. Speaker, I will take notice of that question.

**Mr. Nielsen:** I have a supplementary question for the Minister of State. Since many Canadian gold producers are presently selling their production on the international rather than on the domestic market, what action is the Canadian government taking to maintain an adequate inflow of gold from domestic sources? If the minister is going to take notice of this question also, when he answers will he also explain to the House what Canada is doing about the principal gold producer in South Africa having ceased production and what measures Canada is taking in order to ensure the continuation of adequate reserves from international markets?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I would think that the answer to that question should be given on motions. If the minister's answer were to be as long as the question it would have to be given on motions.

#### INDICATION OF POSSIBLE RETURN TO GOLD STANDARD BY UNITED STATES—CANADIAN PLANS TO MEET EVENTUALITY

**Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris):** Mr. Speaker, perhaps I could bring another matter to the attention of the Minister of Finance or to the Minister of State who is responding for him today. It arises from the recent statement of Arthur Burns, chairman of the United States Federal Reserve Board, at the International Monetary Conference in Montreal in which he indicated that the United States government is contemplating a return to the gold standard. When the minister replies would he indicate what plans Canada is making to meet this eventuality?

**Mr. Speaker:** Again I suggest that would have to be included in the minister's statement on motions.

[Later:]

**Mr. Nielsen:** On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, may I point out, with respect, that perhaps because of the intervention of the Chair in connection with the three questions asked by myself and the one asked by the hon. member for Brandon-Souris the Minister of State, who is usually quite informative in his replies, might have understood that they need not be answered. Your Honour has suggested that the matter be dealt with by the minister on motions. I wonder if we might have an undertaking from

### Inquiries of the Ministry

the Minister of State that he will come to the House tomorrow with a statement on motions.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. This is hardly a question of privilege. It is a supplementary question to which the minister might be allowed to reply.

**Mr. Mahoney:** Mr. Speaker, I will look at the questions and see what response is appropriate.

\* \* \*

### PRICES AND INCOMES COMMISSION

#### INQUIRY AS TO TABLING OF FINAL REPORT

**Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of State for Urban Affairs under whose jurisdiction I believe the Prices and Incomes Commission comes. Can the minister tell us whether the final report of the Prices and Incomes Commission is now ready and, if so, when will it be tabled?

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, it has not yet been presented to the government; it is in the course of preparation, but I understand it will be presented soon.

**Mrs. MacInnis:** Mr. Speaker, I understand that it contains some pretty forcible criticism of government policy. May we have the assurance that when the report is tabled it will be published in full?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

### MANPOWER

#### LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—EXTENSION OF CERTAIN PROJECTS—FINAL DATE FOR ACCEPTANCE OR REFUSAL OF PROJECTS

**Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Further to the statement he made in the House on May 5 with regard to extending the Local Initiatives Program, can he tell us whether requests for extension will soon be answered, and whether a deadline has been set with regard to their acceptance or refusal?

[English]

**Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, as a general rule all projects under the Local Initiatives Program which are sponsored by municipalities can be extended to June 15 on the understanding, of course, that no supplementary sums of money from the federal purse are involved. If the hon. member would like a specific answer on a specific program, I would be glad to discuss it with him.