Oral Questions

new currency. I need not remind the minister of the value of having these bills—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. If the hon, member has a question to ask, perhaps he will put it to the minister.

Mr. Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I ask what steps the minister has planned to protect the currency system in Canada, since the new bills which are issued as legal tender are still being refused, as evidence by a memo to cashiers signed two days ago by Mr. W. E. Pentecost, manager of the Parliamentary Restaurant in this building?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, some members enjoy credit in the Parliamentary Restaurant. I will look into that particular matter.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

SECOND PHASE OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—DATE OF SIGNING OF AGREEMENT—FUNDING OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, may I direct my question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion? Has an agreement relating to the second phase of the comprehensive development plan been signed between the government of Canada and the government of Prince Edward Island and, if not, when will it be signed?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I am glad the hon. member used the word "signed." Actually, the official signing has not yet taken place. I think it is appropriate to say that all details of the agreement have been worked out. There was to have been a final meeting on July 9, to be followed by a submission to Treasury Board for the necessary funds. I expect to sign within a couple of weeks after that—let us say, some time in August.

Mr. MacLean: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister assure the House that the agreement, when it is signed, will include a provision recognizing the need for non-governmental organizations to be publicly funded, for purposes of community development in particular?

Mr. Jamieson: Mr. Speaker, I think I replied to a similar question previously. The answer is yes. To the best of my knowledge, in the last draft agreement I saw, we made provision for the type of funding to which the hon. member referred. There will be questions as to which organizations will receive the funding.

[Mr. Clarke (Vancouver Quadra).]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

FEAR OF NEW CANADIANS OF CONSCRIPTION FOR MILITARY SERVICE DURING VISITS TO HOMELAND—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mrs. Ursula Appolloni (York South): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. It has been brought to my attention that some new Canadian citizens in my riding fear to visit their country of birth lest they be conscripted for military service. In some cases, I believe this risk extends to their Canadianborn sons. Would the minister consider negotiating with the appropriate countries to ensure that the rights of Canadian citizens are fully recognized?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I understand the hon. lady's concern in this case. I also understand that in some countries there is a system of dual citizenship. Because this dual citizenship system exists, these contingencies occur. I will follow up the question and see what can be done.

AIRPORTS

SUGGESTED DIVERSION OF FUNDS FROM PICKERING PROJECT TO IMPROVE FACILITIES AT MONCTON

Mr. Leonard C. Jones (Moncton): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. In view of doubts which have risen with respect to Pickering airport, would the minister consider diverting and transferring sufficient funds from that project to accelerate long needed improvements to airport facilities, including passenger, baggage, cargo and terminal facilities, in particular at Moncton airport?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think I made it clear that Mr. Rhodes, speaking for the government of Ontario, is not opposed necessarily to an airport at Pickering, but that he wanted to discuss the financial implications for Ontario. He is not ready to accept the airport under any conditions unless we can come to an agreement. I think we are going to meet. I sent a wire to Mr. Rhodes. I hope that we are going to agree on the details of any future airport at Pickering.

Mr. Lawrence: That was the question last week.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): But you never said "no."

HARBOURS

HAMILTON—DATE OF DECISION ON REQUEST FOR PUBLIC INQUIRY

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a short question to the Prime Minister? As, to my knowledge, the resolution passed by the council of the city of Hamilton in the latter part of 1974 demanding a full, open or judicial inquiry into Hamilton