

scrutiny of questionable grants such as \$3 million to Noranda Mines Limited, \$2 million—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member knows that Standing Order does not allow an explanation of the type he is attempting to give at this time.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

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INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES ACT

AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE FOR MONTHLY REPORTS INDICATING AMOUNTS OF GRANTS AND NAMES OF COMPANIES

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-218, to amend the Industrial Research and Development Incentives Act.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Knight: The purpose of this bill is to require the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce to make monthly reports on the operation of the Industrial Research and Development Incentives Act, indicating the names of the companies and the amounts of the grants in the same way the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion is supposed to make reports under section 16 of the Regional Development Incentives Act, thus ensuring—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member knows he can give only a brief explanation by virtue of Standing Order 68(2).

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INFLATION—POLICY RESPECTING POSSIBLE USE OF WAGE AND PRICE CONTROLS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Was the Minister of State from Calgary South expressing government policy when he said outside the House on June 11 that, while the government had contingency plans for dealing with the expected increase in inflationary pressures, price and wage controls were not part of those plans because he did not think they would work? Was the minister expressing government policy when he indicated that price and wage controls were not part of the contingency planning of the government with regard to the control of inflation?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I would have to check exactly what was said by the minister, but to the extent he has been quoted correctly by

Inquiries of the Ministry

the Leader of the Opposition it is not government policy. There are contingency plans and these are part of them.

• (1420)

INFLATION—TERMINATION OF PRICES AND INCOMES COMMISSION—CONTINGENCY PLANNING BY CONTINUING GROUP

Mr. Stanfield: Has the government authorized the continuance of a contingency planning group, perhaps a remnant of the Prices and Incomes Commission or, in any event, a continuing planning group, to carry on research on the role of a prices and incomes policy with regard to inflation, and is the planning of such a prices and incomes control policy within the terms of reference of that group?

Mr. Trudeau: With regard to the first part of the question, Mr. Speaker, yes. I recall answering a similar question in the House several weeks ago. I said then that after the Prices and Incomes Commission had reached the end of its mandate there would be kept in the government a small group of people who would be dealing with the problem on a continuing basis. One of the aspects, I am sure, of their work will be to keep various contingency plans updated in the event that the government might want to use them.

Mr. Stanfield: Is a contingency plan for wage and price controls specifically within the terms of reference of that group? Can the Prime Minister also tell the House to what minister that group will be reporting and to what minister the government will be looking for recommendations with regard to anti-inflationary measures and the development of contingency plans?

Mr. Trudeau: With regard to the first part of the question, Mr. Speaker, the terms of reference are generally as I stated them in my first answer. With regard to the second part of the question, the Prices and Incomes Commission will continue reporting to the same minister, at present the Minister of State for Urban Affairs, until such time as it finishes its work. The small working group which will be kept on will be an assignment of some minister whom I have not yet determined.

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TRADE

REASON FOR POSTPONEMENT OF HEARING BY UNITED STATES TREASURY BOARD ON MICHELIN CASE

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Can the minister inform the House as to the reasons for the postponement of the hearing on the Michelin case by the United States treasury board and, more particularly, whether the postponement was at the request of the government of Canada? If so, does the government intend to make public its own brief on the subject?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the secretary of the treasury board in the United States is free to allow any period of