

[Translation]

**SOCIAL SECURITY****SUGGESTED USE OF BANK OF CANADA TO FINANCE  
GUARANTEED ANNUAL INCOME**

**Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister of National Health and Welfare a question.

Considering the objections from Quebec on the basic proposal of the minister for the establishment of a guaranteed income supplement plan for all Canadians, has the minister thought of asking or suggesting to his provincial colleagues that the ideal way of settling this financial problem would be to use the resources of the Bank of Canada?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** No, Mr. Speaker.

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[English]

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****VIET NAM—SUSPENSION OF BILATERAL AID PROGRAMS—  
POSSIBLE RECOGNITION OF NEW REGIME**

**Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood):** Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the changes that have taken place in the situation in South Viet Nam, has the government suspended bilateral aid to the area and is it continuing to make available emergency assistance and food aid, using the International Red Cross, UNICEF and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as channels?

**Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. The Canadian government has suspended bilateral aid programs to Viet Nam and Cambodia, but is continuing with its humanitarian assistance programs to the region through multilateral agencies.

● (1440)

**Mr. Brewin:** A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. In view of the further fact it now appears that the authorities representing the PRG are in effective control of the area formally known as South Viet Nam, in order to facilitate direct and urgent discussions with that government in respect of compassionate and humanitarian assistance, will the government give consideration to the question of recognition of the regime?

[Translation]

**Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga):** Mr. Speaker, according to reliable reports, the new authorities would have made contradictory statements about their intentions of recognizing other governments, and until such a situation has been cleared up it would seem premature on the part of the government to make a decision on its own as to the recognition of the new authorities.

Oral Questions

[English]

**THE CANADIAN ECONOMY****INFLATION—KNOWLEDGE OF MINISTER OF QUESTIONS BY  
AND RESPONSES TO LABOUR CONCERNING PROGRAM FOR  
CONSENSUS ON RESTRAINT**

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Finance. I should like to ask the minister whether he has been fully briefed since his return on what took place in connection with the consensus program while he was away. Can he assure the House that he has been fully informed of any questions that organized labour may have about this program? Also, can he tell the House that the government has answered all the questions raised by the CLC? I put these questions in view of the important meeting which I understand is to be held next Wednesday at which CLC and organized labour will make fairly fundamental decisions with regard to this program.

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, as the hon. gentleman knows, the ministers themselves met with the executive of the CLC on two or three occasions. Following the tabling of a statement in the House by my parliamentary secretary, we set in force technical groups, one meeting with the Canadian Labour Congress and organized labour, one meeting with various segments of the business community as I described to the House before and the third, the technical group, meeting with the representatives of the provinces. Through those technical discussions with labour, I understand that various avenues were explored on a number of subjects. There is nothing definitive at this stage, however, and I await the reaction of the labour movement to the discussions as they have proceeded so far before deciding whether to move into the final stage of the discussions.

**Mr. Stanfield:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the importance that the minister attaches to this program and in view of the importance of the government mounting some framework within which to fight inflation and permit expansion of the economy, could the minister not answer my question very simply by giving an assurance that he has been fully briefed and that the leaders of organized labour have to his knowledge been given all the answers, all the information, and all the assurances they require before they consider this question on Wednesday evening?

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** Mr. Speaker, I can assure the hon. gentleman that I have been fully briefed since my return from the Middle East. To the best of my knowledge, all the subjects which the leaders of organized labour have wished to canvass in terms of government latitude have been given consideration. There is nothing firm at this time, however. I understand that the Canadian Labour Congress executive will canvass the subject in more detail with leaders of their constituent unions on Wednesday. It is because of the importance that I attach to this exercise that I feel this is as far as I can go with the hon. gentleman today.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Mr. Speaker, I am not asking the minister for specific information or details. My final supplement-