

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Greene:** We do not contemplate any arrangements with Denison Mines at present, but certainly in any governmental action the well-being, employment and concern of the workers will have the highest priority.

**Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo):** I should like to ask the minister whether he intends to apply the same regulations to the other energy industries like coal and oil?

**Mr. Greene:** There is no decision in that regard at present. I think the Prime Minister has made it manifest that the government is working very actively on an over-all policy decision in regard to foreign ownership of industrial and resource assets in Canada. When that decision is made and the announcement forthcoming, this question will be specifically answered.

**Mr. Hees:** I have a further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I take it from the minister's answer to my last question that if Denison is closed down by the decision of the chairman, it would be quite all right with the government, and that the extra 1,000 people laid off will simply add to the government's policy of increasing unemployment at this time?

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

**Mr. Baldwin:** This is the war on inflation!

**Mr. Foster:** I would like to ask the minister, in view of Mr. Roman's statement this morning that there is a lack of funds, whether the minister would consider extending the stock-piling program, of which Denison has made the most use, beyond the date of June 30?

**Mr. Greene:** In the event of a close-down, or possible close-down, we would have to meet that eventuality if it arose and consider the various alternatives that might be available to the government. But that bridge has not been crossed yet.

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the uncertainty caused by the white paper and the announcement with regard to Denison Mines, I should like to ask the minister whether he will assure the country now that these regulations or special legislation which he has mentioned today will not apply to the petroleum industry of western Canada which at present has to suffer under the quotas imposed by the United States, a subject matter which the minister recently discussed in the House?

[Mr. Foster.]

**Mr. Greene:** I am not able to give the assurance that the hon. member requests in that, as I have stated, the Prime Minister has announced the fact that the government is reviewing the entire question of foreign ownership. I am quite certain that when the decision is made it will be announced as promptly as possible in order that the industry and entrepreneurs and investors may know the government's policy in this regard.

**Mr. Woolliams:** I have a further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister be prepared to make a definite statement prior to the Easter vacation in view of the effect that this is having on business generally as well as on the stock market in Canada?

**Mr. Greene:** I am in no position to make such an announcement, as I have stated, and I believe that the stock market, while it has its ups and downs, has not been deleteriously affected by the government's policy in this respect.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Is the right hon. member for Prince Albert seeking the floor for a supplementary question?

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. It has to do with the province of Saskatchewan where tremendous developments in uranium production are expected. An American corporation has spent a great deal of money in Saskatchewan in the Woolaston Lake area and there is a distinct possibility of tremendous developments there. Since some \$70 million in expenditures will, it is hoped, be made, will the decision that has been made in connection with Denison Mines apply to this company which has spent a couple of years in serious development and is now about to be in a position to launch one of the greatest mining developments in our province, where such development is necessary because potash and wheat are virtually unsaleable? Will the minister give reconsideration to those industries that have spent their money under the law as it was and never expected the changes to be made that have been made?

**Mr. Greene:** Mr. Speaker, the situation that the right hon. gentleman has drawn to the attention of the House is one that the government had in mind when we declared in the statement:

A further point concerns foreign enterprises now engaged in uranium exploration which have not yet established the presence of commercially pro-