

me on very short notice, but the matter is urgent and very real in its aspects. I have spoken to two ministers about it. I should like to ask the Acting Prime Minister to take steps to eliminate Gerald Blackmore from a mining delegation about to visit Poland.

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, this is the first time I have heard the gentleman's name, but I will take that representation into account.

**Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, I cannot understand why the minister has not heard the name because I have been kicking it around in the House for six years. I would ask the Acting Prime Minister whether he is aware that Gerald Blackmore was, in Tom Kent's words, recently separated—that is the sophisticated way of saying he was fired—from a position with the Cape Breton Development Corporation, a Crown company?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka.

**Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, I must insist on this because this is very urgent. I think the least the Acting Prime Minister can do is take notice of these questions and the importance of not having this man, who has been the architect of ruin in Cape Breton, on an international delegation. The minister from Cape Breton is well aware of this and will substantiate the statement that this man was dismissed from a Crown corporation.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member has made his representation.

**Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** Give him a one-way ticket.

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### THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

#### INFLATION—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT—INTENTION RESPECTING PROPOSAL TO PROVINCIAL PREMIERS TO CONTROL

**Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Finance I direct this question to his parliamentary secretary. Does the government intend to make a statement on the economy, particularly on inflation, and as well does the government intend to present a proposal to the provincial premiers on the subject of inflation involving a co-operative attack on this problem?

[Translation]

**Mr. J.-Roland Comtois (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I am taking note of the question and I am sure that when the Minister of Finance returns from the conference, he will be able to give the answer to the hon. member.

### Oral Questions

● (1140)

[English]

### HEALTH

#### SUGGESTED PROCLAMATION OF NON-SMOKING DAY

**Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey-White Rock):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question I should like to direct to the attention of the Minister of National Health and Welfare, but first I should like to say that I am glad to see him safely back in the House today. In view of the continued heavy incidence of death and disease associated with such diseases as lung cancer, emphysema and thrombosis, associated with cigarette consumption, will the minister give favourable consideration to the proclamation issued by the government of British Columbia setting aside May 31 as non-smoking day in that province?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, first of all I wish to thank the hon. member for having given me notice of this question a few days ago. I will certainly give consideration to his suggestion. I would like to have some assurance, however, that smokers will not take double rations on June 1.

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### AGRICULTURE

#### FERTILIZER—ACTION TO ENSURE SUPPLY

**Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the fact that fertilizer ordered last February by farmers in central Alberta is not available now, and in view of the assurance of the Minister of Agriculture to the House that there would be an adequate supply, would the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce state now what action the government plans to take to meet this national emergency?

**Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, without accepting the premise that it is a national emergency, I will be pleased to look into the matter and report back.

**Mr. Towers:** If the minister finds this statement to be correct, which I am sure he will if he checks with central Alberta, will he be prepared to stop immediately all export of fertilizer until domestic requirements are supplied?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. In spite of the hon. member's assurance, which the Chair does not doubt, I will have to rule that the question is hypothetical. The hon. member has made a representation and he has to assume that the minister has noted it.