

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

HOUSINGAPPLICATION OF LOW-RENT HOUSING PROGRAM
TO SMALL TOWNS

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Minister without Portfolio in charge of housing.

Could he tell the House whether the \$200 million program for the construction of low rental housing is giving satisfactory results and does he intend to renew that program for 1971 and to apply it in small towns?

[English]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, the \$200 million innovative program of 1970 produced many benefits and we are in the process of evaluating them. I would not claim that everything we did under that program was perfect, but I think it was generally effective. It is our intention to continue into 1971 with a comparable approach, although not necessarily identical to the one of 1970.

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HEALTHHOSPITALIZATION PLAN—MODIFICATION OF FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT REQUIREMENTS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of National Health and Welfare whether, in view of the discussions going on with the provinces in regard to a more flexible method of financing the hospital plan, the government of Canada is now prepared to modify any of the original basic requirements laid down by the federal government? I think there were four basic essential conditions. Is the federal government now modifying any of the four essential conditions in order to promote more flexible methods of financing?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): No, Mr. Speaker.

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FINANCESUGGESTED GREATER INCOME TAX EXEMPTIONS PER
CHILD FOR PEOPLE LIKELY TO BE DEPRIVED
OF FAMILY ALLOWANCES

Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Frontenac-Lennox and Addington): Mr. Speaker, in view of the roster system my question would normally be directed to the Minister of Finance on Monday, but because of the urgency I must now direct it to the right hon. Prime Minister. Will the government not compensate, by greater income tax exemptions per child, those people who are likely to be deprived of family allowances?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the government has made its views known on this in the white paper, and we are obviously open to representations from all parts of the country on this matter. If the hon. member wants to make an argument on this case and find the funds for it, we will hear him gladly.

[Mr. Trudeau.]

[Translation]

HIGHWAYSMONTREAL—EAST-WEST AUTO ROUTE—DISCUSSIONS
BETWEEN OTTAWA AND QUEBEC

Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Public Works, so that it will be more in accordance with our Standing Orders and more acceptable to the Minister.

Can he say whether the government intends to change the lay-out of the East-West highway in Montreal or to have it changed, following objections raised by the Secretary of State, the hon. member for Hochelaga?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that the hon. member may phrase his question in this manner. If he wants merely to put it, without the corollary, I think that it would be more in order. Anyway, the minister may want to answer it.

[English]

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, the minister is not particularly anxious to answer. The program for the Trans-Canada Highway closes on December 31 this year, and any projection or announcements made by the province of Quebec would be on its own responsibility. I think any question with regard to any involvement on our part should more properly be addressed to my hon. friend, the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

[Translation]

Mr. Valade: Mr. Speaker, could I avail myself of the opportunity offered by the Minister of Public Works and ask the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion if the lay-out suggested by the province of Quebec will definitely be accepted by the federal government?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): I am not aware of what the lay-out will be, Mr. Speaker. I am going to inquire and I might be able to reply later.

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[English]

LABOUR CONDITIONSSUGGESTED PROVISION OF JOBS IN PUBLIC SERVICE
FOR FORMER LAPALME EMPLOYEES

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

Mr. Paproski: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member on a point of order, but we have reached the end of the question period.

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Speaker, about 20 minutes ago I asked the Prime Minister to indicate whether he would do something for these poor people outside the building so they could go back home to their families for Christmas, but the Prime Minister would not indicate one way