

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to hon. members that perhaps we might revert to motions to allow the minister to make a statement.

Mr. Saltsman: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. While thanking the minister for his lesson in French, in view of his responsibility to industry may I ask him whether it is his intention either to see about refusing export permits for natural gas or to make representations before the National Energy Board on behalf of the manufacturers of Canada.

Mr. Pepin: The hon. member is hoping that I will say whether or not I am in favour of a two-price system for gas. As usual there are advantages and disadvantages on both sides of the argumentation. I shall consult with the minister in charge of energy to see whether the two of us can develop some kind of an answer.

SPORTS

TORONTO—FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
IN CONSTRUCTION OF DOMED STADIUM

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. In light of the approval in principle by the Toronto board of control for a domed sports stadium for metro, and in the light of the decision to approach the federal government for funds should approval be given by plebiscite in December, will the Prime Minister say whether it is the intention of the federal government to give favourable consideration to assisting financially in the construction of such a domed sports stadium—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest that the question should be placed on the order paper.

PENSIONS

ACTION TO ASSURE ADEQUATE BENEFITS FOR
ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, a week ago I directed a question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. The acting minister said that he would take note of the question and have it answered at the earliest possible opportunity. Following that I was advised by two departments to try the President of the Treasury Board; so I shall redirect my question to him now. In view of the appeal received from the Naval Officers Association of Canada, what immediate steps can the government take to update to an adequate level the pension benefits of

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long service pensioners in Canada's fighting forces, and their wives and children.

Mr. Speaker: If I did not say so when the question was asked earlier, I should have said that this is a question which normally should be answered by way of a statement on motions.

Mrs. MacInnis: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister make a statement on motions, perhaps on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday of next week.

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I repeat that I am not sure whether the house will be sitting on Monday and Tuesday—

Mr. Hees: It will be sitting.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Wetaskiwin.

Mrs. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

Mr. Speaker: I suggest to the hon. member for Wetaskiwin that we will have to yield to the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway.

Mrs. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker I was very respectfully going to draw to your attention the fact that you cut off the President of the Treasury Board in the middle of a sentence. I think he should have had the opportunity to complete that sentence.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The minister did not appear to complain.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Wetaskiwin.

AGRICULTURE

DAIRYING—GREATER BUTTERFAT QUOTA ON
PRAIRIES

Mr. H. A. Moore (Wetaskiwin): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will try again. My question is for the Minister of Agriculture. Has the minister any plan to change the policy of the Dairy Commission to allow the retention of more butterfat quota in the prairie provinces.

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I have received a great deal of representation to set up regional quotas. We have decided we do not like to set up the kind of program that would inhibit interprovincial trade within Canada.