

minister, if we do not have our share of growth, which we do not, why does not the government insist on the United States living up to that agreement, and particularly on getting letters of agreement from the industry to invest in the way it did in 1965 when it signed the agreement?

Mr. Horner: Mr. Speaker, we are working and asking the industry to do just that. I might say that if the hon. member were to look at the publication my department released on the automotive industry, he would see that we have steadily increased our production in both automobiles and parts. In fact, we have doubled parts manufacturing in Canada in the past ten years.

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[Translation]

PENITENTIARIES

REQUEST FOR MEASURE TO PROTECT PRISON GUARDS

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Solicitor General.

Considering that over nine months ago the subcommittee of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs tabled a very special report concerning steps the Solicitor General and his officials should take to improve our prison security system; considering that hardened inmates who want to boss the prisons have indicated quite clearly that it is the Solicitor General's department which, through mismanagement, is mostly responsible for this situation; and considering also that several acts of violence have been perpetrated in Canadian penitentiaries because of this, could the minister advise the House whether something will be done shortly to protect these guards and especially younger prisoners from older ones, assure law and order in these institutions, and guarantee the safety of all those whose duty it is to maintain law and order there?

Hon. J.-J. Blais (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to the hon. member for his question. This very serious question is somewhat similar to those which other members directed to me less than ten minutes ago. I want only to indicate to the hon. member that I am eager to implement most of the recommendations put forward by the subcommittee. I should like also to indicate that there is a new penitentiary commissioner who has been on the job for nearly two months now and who is striving to improve the administration in line with the subcommittee's recommendations.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

RECOMMENDED REINSTATEMENT OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

In light of the recommendations of the subcommittee and considering what the Solicitor General can do to improve the

Oral Questions

situation if it continues to deteriorate as we have seen lately, does the Solicitor General intend to bring a bill before the House to reinstate capital punishment or at least to urge the Department of Justice to give harsher sentences to those who are responsible for the murders of prison guards or policemen on duty?

Hon. J.-J. Blais (Solicitor General): No, Mr. Speaker.

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[English]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

ACCESS OF INFLATION MONITORING AGENCY TO INFORMATION PROVIDED UNDER ANTI-INFLATION ACT

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Finance and the Prime Minister, I should like to put my first question to the Deputy Prime Minister and House leader. As a private bill entitled "The Inflation Monitoring Agency Act" has been circulated by the Minister of Finance to various provincial government departments, and as this bill sets out in one of its clauses, "Any information, including privileged information, obtained under the Anti-Inflation Act shall be made available to the Agency"—that is, the Inflation Monitoring Agency, will the Deputy Prime Minister indicate what the government has in mind in making this information available to the Inflation Monitoring Agency, bearing in mind that such information was given on the strict understanding it would remain confidential within the AIB and would in no event be turned over to any other body?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and President of Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I am not fully informed on the subject matter, except I think it is normal practice for the government to consult with the provinces on matters that are in the common interest of the federal government and the provincial governments. I hope the hon. member does not take serious objection to the practice of involving the provinces in such economic discussions and ultimate decisions.

● (1432)

AVAILABILITY OF STATISTICS CANADA DATA TO INFLATION MONITORING AGENCY

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, now that the Prime Minister has joined us, I should like to direct my supplementary question to him. A proposed companion bill to the Inflation Monitoring Agency Act is to be known as the Financial and Compensation Data Returns Act, which has been circulated to various provincial departments. Can the Prime Minister indicate why it is intended under this act to make Statistics Canada a data collection agency with a view to turning information over to the new monitoring agency, bearing in mind that until now the essence of Statistics Canada has been that it is a confidential agency of government?