

Oral Questions

that reason, the corporation is looking to other sources as well.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Forget Canadians and bring in foreigners.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**POSSIBLE CREATION OF FEDERAL SECURITIES COMMISSION—
GOVERNMENT POSITION**

Mr. F. A. Philbrook (Halton): My question is for the Minister of Justice. Is his department considering the creation of a federal securities commission to complement the provincial bodies and, if not, why not?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, that is a matter on which the department and the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs have been doing considerable work in the past. I think the question should be more properly directed to my colleague.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY**ANTI-INFLATION BOARD—METHOD OF MONITORING PRICE
INCREASES**

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. It arises out of a statement made yesterday by the chairman of the Anti-Inflation Board that the board will ask 100 of the largest firms to identify their main product lines as a basis for an efficient system of price monitoring. In view of the minister's admission yesterday that the government had difficulties with drafting a list of corporations to be covered by the guidelines, can the minister tell us how the board will handle the complexities of price monitoring?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, this seems to me like one of the questions that might appropriately be asked in the committee and I will be glad to deal with it there.

Mr. Orlikow: In view of the intention of the Anti-Inflation Board, as announced by its chairman, to change the regulations governing the program as often as necessary to ensure that they are equitable and workable in their daily application, can the minister explain to the House how an effective system of price monitoring and control can be carried out in such a climate of change, or does the minister agree with the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce that virtually all excess profits will be exempt from the guidelines, thus making price monitoring unnecessary?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Similarly this question should be put to the minister in the standing committee.

[Mr. Gillespie.]

[Translation]

HOUSING**POSSIBILITY OF DEDUCTING MORTGAGE INTEREST FROM
INCOME TAX—GOVERNMENT POSITION**

Mr. Armand Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs.

As the home ownership assistance program is about to expire without the housing problem having been solved satisfactorily, and as the minister stated he would soon announce new measures in this regard, can he tell the House whether he intends to include in those measures to encourage home ownership the possibility for an owner to deduct his mortgage interest for tax purposes?

● (1150)

[English]

Hon. Barney Danson (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I really could not indicate that without divulging the program. It will address itself, however, to the very real problems of high carrying costs of which interest rates are a major part. I will be making an announcement to the House on Monday on this matter.

[Translation]

**EFFECT OF ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM ON HOUSE
CONSTRUCTION**

Mr. Armand Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.

Could the minister advise the House whether the restraint measures which the government will take to fight inflation will slow down the home buyer assistance scheme and result in a further aggravation of the housing crisis in Canada?

[English]

Hon. Barney Danson (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the government has set housing as a priority and it continues to be a priority. We are approaching it from the view of supply so that it is indeed anti-inflationary and job creating. I think the hon. member will be pleased with the announcement I will make on Monday.

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FINANCE**REQUEST FOR EARLY TABLING OF ALL SUPPLEMENTARY
ESTIMATES**

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. In light of the serious doubts raised by the President of the Treasury Board yesterday in his very partisan speech on the helpful motion put forward by my leader, I should like to ask the Minister of Finance if he would undertake before the Christmas recess certainly, and hopefully before we complete discussion on Bill C-73, to bring in all of the supplementary estimates for the present fiscal year so that the House and the country will know the extent by which the deficit proposed by the former minister of finance is going