Inquiries of the Ministry VETERANS AFFAIRS

WOODS REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS— REQUEST FOR ACTION

Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, I have a most urgent question for the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Inasmuch as over 10,000 pensioners have died in the 16 months since the tabling of the Woods report, can the minister give us any assurance that the recommendations made in the report will be implemented before many more veterans pass on?

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, as we all know, the House of Commons Committee on Veterans Affairs will meet on September 15, and at that time it will study both the Woods committee report and the government white paper which should be ready by that time.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SIMILARITY OF CANADIAN AND BRITISH COINS—INQUIRY AS TO CONSULTATIONS

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has there been any consultation between the Canadian government and the government of the United Kingdom regarding the introduction by the United Kingdom of the decimal system of coinage among which there is a coin with the physical properties of our quarter but only half its value, which can be used in coin machines in Canada, including post office stamp vending machines?

Mr. Speaker: I wonder whether this question is not one that might be placed more properly on the order paper or debated at the time of adjournment.

Mr. MacLean: May I say with deference, Mr. Speaker, that this is a very urgent matter because people in Canada have been known to collect large numbers of these coins in an attempt to fight inflation.

An hon. Member: What is the value of a quarter?

FINANCE

INTEREST RATE—STATEMENT BY CHAIRMAN, TORONTO-DOMINION BANK

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the [Mr. Speaker.]

Acting Prime Minister and draw his attention to a statement made by the chairman of the Toronto-Dominion Bank which seems to be a direct challenge to the hopeful aspirations—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has to ask a question.

Mr. Saltsman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I was coming to it. The Minister of Finance has indicated he is hopeful that the prime rate will hold. In view of the fact that this has been challenged in statements by the chairman of the bank, is the Acting Prime Minister, as a former holder of that office, willing to come to the defence of the Minister of Finance?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The question as asked is not in order.

HOUSING

URBAN RENEWAL—REQUEST FOR DATE OF STATEMENT

Mr. J. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the minister in charge of housing. In view of the fact that the municipality of Oshawa is being pressed to make an urgent decision on an urban renewal scheme and, further, in view of the fact that certain members of the city council had reason to understand that the minister would make a statement on the federal government's urban renewal proposal on the 15th of this month, would the minister give a clear indication to the house of the date on which he intends to make such a statement?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member reiterates a question which, if my memory serves me correctly, was asked on Tuesday.

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct this question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the statement attributed to the Minister of Supply and Services that talk of western alienation simply melts away with the Prime Minister's presence in the prairies, will the Minister of National Health and Welfare send a team to the west to ascertain whether the Prime Minister has been affected by sunstroke or whether he has fallen foul of sillabub?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.