

Minister. Notwithstanding Standing Order 5 and the deliberate instruction of the Prime Minister to keep members away from this house, and since half the cabinet is away today, my question which should have been for the Minister of Finance is directed to the Prime Minister.

Would the Prime Minister advise the house whether any instructions are being given Canada's delegation to the International Monetary Fund meetings with regard to any further reforms, or controls on the movement of international financial capital, to prevent these recurring crises that we see almost every second month?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance is arriving in Ottawa from overseas at six o'clock today. The Acting Minister of Finance is the minister of northern affairs.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, since the Prime Minister is bowing to the superior knowledge of the acting minister, may I ask the second acting minister whether he can inform the house if the Governor of the Bank of Canada or any of Canada's representatives at the International Monetary Fund meetings were able to make a positive contribution to the control of, shall we say, hot money and these recurring financial crises?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, everybody in Canada agrees that we have an excellent Governor of the Bank of Canada who has the confidence of the government.

[English]

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Notwithstanding the acting minister's confidence in the Governor of the Bank of Canada, which I think we would share more than he, I am asking about government policy in this regard. It has been suggested at committee hearings, which I presume the cabinet occasionally are aware of, that there is something wrong with our international monetary situation; that Canada, as one of the inner circle of 13, has some positive contribution to make.

[Translation]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance will be back shortly; I am sure he

Inquiries of the Ministry

will make an announcement in the house regarding the international monetary situation and I am confident the hon. member will be satisfied with it.

[English]

Mr. Ed Schreyer (Selkirk): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the acting minister advise whether the present policy of the government of Canada is to support the continuation of a two tier pricing system for gold or is the policy going to change?

[Translation]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance will make an announcement in this regard, if necessary.

[English]

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

ST. BRUNO, QUE.—DERAILMENT OF PASSENGER TRAIN

Mr. John L. Skoberg (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct this question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the latest passenger train mishap on the Canadian National Railways line near St. Bruno, Quebec, in which 20 passengers were injured, and in view of the fact that there has been an increase in the number of mishaps involving death or injury on both major railways in Canada, would the minister indicate whether the analysis being made of the causes of such accidents has been completed?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, with regard to the accident to which my hon. friend refers, an investigation is now under way. As to the second part of the question, I hope to give an answer within a few days. Frankly, I do not know if the analysis has yet been completed.

Mr. Skoberg: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister say whether he considers the situation serious enough to establish a public inquiry into the safety of train operations?

Mr. Jamieson: Mr. Speaker, this certainly is a serious matter, but whether a public inquiry is the most appropriate way of dealing with this I do not know. However I will look into the entire matter and find out what is the best way of dealing with it because, I repeat, it certainly is serious.