

Oral Questions

Calgary to the Prime Minister and did the Prime Minister endorse the contents of that speech before the minister delivered it in Calgary?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, I did not, of course, submit in detail all the contents of the speech. However, I find that in Calgary the people are more openminded than the people on the opposite side of the House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, the minister is not going to play ducks and drakes with me. I asked the Minister of Supply and Services a simple question. Did he submit the contents of the speech he delivered in Calgary to the Prime Minister prior to delivery and did the Prime Minister endorse the contents?

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, I gave a very simple answer to a very simple question to a very simple mind. I hope the hon. member understood what I said.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Calgary North rises on a question of privilege. He will, of course, be recognized. But I am sure hon. members will want to go along with the Chair in that, after we have settled the question of privilege now going to be raised by the hon. member we should try to go to the next question.

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, I would only quote one thing to the minister: "Oh wad some power to giftie gie us to see oursels as ithers see us!" The simple minister sitting over there is the former Solicitor General. His record speaks for itself throughout the country.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: The right hon. member for Prince Albert.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1500)

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, it is not every day one receives applause twice. I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Supply and Services arising out of the question asked earlier relating to cabinet solidarity. Is he to be identified as the pea in the Prime Minister's shell game in this regard?

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, I thought the right hon. member knew nothing about cabinet solidarity until today.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Are you the pea? That is what I want to know.

Some hon. Members: We want George.

[Mr. Woolliams.]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The right hon. gentleman must be very happy that hon. members seems to be enjoying themselves so much on his anniversary.

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FINANCE**POSSIBLE INCREASE IN MORTGAGE INTEREST RATES—
GOVERNMENT POSITION**

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance arising from a report in this morning's *Globe and Mail* that interest rates are scheduled to rise once more by one-quarter of one per cent, specifically, mortgage rates. This will have the effect of increasing the price of the average house by about \$1,000. Can the minister tell us whether the government plans to take steps to prevent this increase as it pertains to mortgage rates?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): I have read that report. As yet, it is speculative, and I do not think I should like to comment at this stage.

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HOUSING**ASSISTED HOME OWNERSHIP PROGRAM—POSSIBLE
MODIFICATION TO MAKE MORE EFFECTIVE IN LARGE CITIES**

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): I have a supplementary question for the Minister of State for Urban Affairs, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister inform the House whether he has any plans to modify the AHOP program so that its provisions might become operative in the financial sense in the big cities? At the present time, as the minister knows, because of housing costs and the regulations which govern the present program it is, in effect, inoperative in the large cities.

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I expect to have something to say on that subject in the speech I shall be making in the debate this afternoon which I think will interest the hon. member. In terms of tight markets such as Toronto and Vancouver, and in answer to the hon. member for New Westminster, may I say I have an appointment on Friday afternoon with the minister of housing of British Columbia.

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INDUSTRY**PAPER—ALLEGED SHORTAGE AND PRICE INCREASE—
GOVERNMENT ACTION TO COUNTERACT**

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce of which I gave him notice some time ago. I hope he remembers. What steps is the minister taking to ensure an adequate supply of paper at fair prices