

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, some background work has been done. We are convinced that the effects will be unfavourable. More work is under way.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Lisgar will be recognized for a supplementary. We have reached the end of the question period. Following the hon. member for Lisgar I will recognize the hon. member for York West and then the hon. member for Okanagan Boundary.

Mr. Murta: Mr. Speaker, I have just a short supplementary for the minister. If the federal government is convinced that the effects of the proposed dam which is being constructed at present will be unfavourable to Manitoba, has this fact been communicated to the United States and has the International Joint Commission been brought into this matter? Also, has the Manitoba government been informed because they seem to feel that the proposed project will not harm the province?

Mr. Davis: The answer to all three questions is yes, Mr. Speaker.

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AIRPORTS

TORONTO INTERNATIONAL—REQUEST FOR CONTROL OF TAXIS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jim Fleming (York West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. In view of the current taxi crisis at the Toronto International Airport whereby unlicensed cabs are operating at outrageously high prices and pandemonium prevails, can the minister report whether any action has been taken by the cabinet or himself?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, as you know, we can regulate the taxis at the airport very well but we cannot do so outside the area of the airport. The only solution to the problem is to have an understanding with the city of Toronto—and this is what we are working on now—so as to cover the whole field.

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INCOME TAX

POSSIBLE RESTORATION OF INVESTMENT INCENTIVES IN ACT TO PROVIDE RENTAL HOUSING—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. In view of the announcement last Friday that the British Columbia government has implemented rent control on residential property because of the shortage of rental units and the resulting increases in rents, will the minister consider, as a means of increasing the supply of rental units, restoring the incentives to investors in rental housing which were formerly provided in the Income Tax Act?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, that is a subject worth considering, and I suppose also that within the jurisdiction of the province of British

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Columbia more emphasis could be put on incentives to the private sector as well.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day. The hon. member for Middlesex rises on a question of privilege.

Mr. Frank: Mr. Speaker, I hate to delay the House with this point of privilege and I hope it is a point of privilege, but I take very strong exception to the Minister of Agriculture blaming the opposition for the confusion that exists in the cattle industry in the country as a whole. The Minister of Agriculture announced a program in the House on Friday, without guidelines being laid down, and then came in on the next working day, which was Monday, again without setting any guidelines, and tried to say that it is we who are creating the confusion in the industry.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am sure the hon. member appreciates that he is now making a point of debate. This is not a question of privilege, and I do not see how we can have a debate on a question of privilege based on the statement which the hon. member for Middlesex has just made. It seems to me that he is arguing with the minister. He may be right or he may be wrong, but I suggest to him that this is hardly a question of privilege.

Mr. Frank: I appreciate that, Mr. Speaker. The point I would like to make is that I am sure you cannot realize the importance of the situation which exists and which this government has brought about in the country. Yesterday during the question period we had three small questions regarding the industry. If the minister thinks that the people are not concerned about the matter I would like him to get in touch with his colleague in Ontario. He is concerned and he is in the gallery today.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Why is he not at work at Queen's Park?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am sure the hon. member will agree that this is not a question of privilege and the matter should not be pursued.

Mr. Dinsdale: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order regarding a matter which was brought up during the question period today. The point I wish to raise is an urgent one because the Garrison dam project is threatening domestic water supplies from the Souris River and it is only appropriate at this time to point out to the Minister of the Environment that the IJC is the responsible agency—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has made his point to the minister on a point of order. May I suggest again that every day we have alleged points of order and questions of privilege which do not comply with our rules, and when hon. members make such points, raise such questions and argue with ministers it is not very good for the orderly conduct of the affairs of the House.

[Translation]

The hon. member will excuse me but I think he wishes to rise on a point of order or privilege.