

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for St. John's East. Order, please. The minister is rising on a point of order. Will the minister resume his seat. I seek the co-operation of hon. members in limiting supplementaries and points of order for the next three or four minutes before the end of the question period.

Mr. Stanbury: Mr. Speaker, I am sure the hon. member, who usually tries to be fair, would not want to imply something that is not correct. I think he knows that I sent every member of the House and every member of the Senate, a letter asking for suggestions for improvements in the forms because I heard representations from the other side that they could be improved. I would very much like to have specific suggestions for the improvement of these forms, and all such suggestions will be considered before the forms for next year are prepared.

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INFORMATION

POSSIBILITY OF ELIMINATION OF CERTAIN SERVICES BECAUSE OF DUPLICATION

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Finance, I should like to address a question to the President of the Treasury Board. I might say that the question is also directed to the minister in his own right. It is in respect of Information Canada. In view of the fact that expenditures on departmental information services for the fiscal year now before us have considerably exceeded the growing expenditures of Information Canada, I wish to ask the minister what the government proposes to do about this excessive waste of public funds?

Mr. Speaker: In those terms the question is not in order.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, may I rephrase my question very briefly.

Mr. Speaker: The member may rephrase his question but after that I think we will have reached the end of the question period.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, in view of the growing expenditures on information services and of public funds being used for Information Canada, may I ask the minister whether the government proposes to eliminate one of these two redundant services.

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, the intention of the government, which I think has been successful, is to provide more information to the public, in response to widespread demand, by a process which is more efficient.

Oral Questions

STATUS OF WOMEN

IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS BY LEGISLATION

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour who I understand is in charge of the affairs of women.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): At the beginning of the session I asked him whether he would be making a statement concerning the kind of legislation the government would introduce in its program to implement the report on the status of women this session. He replied, "soon". Nearly three months have passed now, and I wish to ask him whether it is his intention to leave this session a blank so far as implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women is concerned?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Most certainly not, Mr. Speaker. I would point out to the hon. member that many of the recommendations of the royal commission can be implemented without the necessity of legislation. They can be implemented, for instance, by executive order. We are progressing with many of these recommendations each day. So far as legislation is concerned, I would advise that we have committed ourselves to come forward with legislation prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex, marital status or age, and I hope to have that bill before the House fairly shortly I might say again.

• (1510)

Mr. Diefenbaker: We already have the Bill of Rights.

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NATIONAL PARKS

BANFF AND JASPER—LACK OF ACCOMMODATION FOR SUMMER EMPLOYEES—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON HOUSING POLICY

Mr. Joe Clark (Rocky Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In light of the accommodation crisis in Banff and Jasper and the imminent arrival of at least 1,000 summer employees who will have literally no place to live, will the minister make a statement on motions this week outlining the government's housing policy for the parks' townsites?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I am reviewing this matter and if need be I will report to the House or the committee.