

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

Ontario has been closely in touch with the department and with the minister throughout recent days and weeks and the Minister of Transport today is in Toronto on this matter.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Will the minister give the house the position of the government of Canada with regard to the contention of the representatives of the municipalities concerned that the expropriation in question would violate the Ontario planning act? Is the position of the government of Canada that the expropriation actions are not subject to the provincial statute; is this the position?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I am suspicious that what the Leader of the Opposition is suggesting now is that the minister be asked to give an interpretation of a legal position, although I may be wrong.

**Mr. Stanfield:** With respect, Mr. Speaker, I am merely asking the minister what is the position taken by the government of Canada with regard to this matter.

**Mr. Richardson:** Mr. Speaker, the representations of the municipalities have been borne in mind very carefully. I believe the final result will reflect the concern that has been expressed by some of the municipalities.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Has the government of Canada taken a position with regard to the effect of the Ontario legislation on the position of the government of Canada with regard to expropriation?

**Mr. Trudeau:** That is out of order.

**Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington):** I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. The minister has just stated that the Minister of Transport is in Toronto. I would advise him that I saw the minister get on the elevator as I came into the house.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Chair will take the question of privilege under advisement.

**FINANCE****PROPOSED POLICY CHANGE RESPECTING EXCHANGE RATES**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. John Burton (Regina East):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Is the minister taking into consideration the recommendation of the former assistant deputy minister of finance, Mr. Plumptre, for the introduction of a crawling-peg exchange rate to alleviate the problems

[Mr. Richardson.]

in respect of the international monetary system?

**Mr. Speaker:** It seems to me the question is very like one which was asked yesterday, about which I had some doubts. I have the same doubts today.

**Mr. Burton:** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that Mr. Plumptre's recommendations, which are mentioned in my question, were made since the matter was last raised in the house, I suggest this would be a relevant item and that it would be proper for the minister to comment on it at the present time.

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, the government has no intention of changing its present policy in respect of exchange rates.

**Mr. Burton:** Mr. Speaker, will the Minister of Finance consider referring the entire matter of Canadian international monetary policy to the standing committee on finance, trade and economic affairs for further study?

**Mr. Benson:** I will consider it, Mr. Speaker.

**HOUSE OF COMMONS****PRESENCE OF PERSONS IN GALLERY NOTING OPPOSITION ATTENDANCE**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

**Mr. Woolliams:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, and it is a very serious point of order. I have observed two strongmen sitting in the gallery taking the attendance of the official opposition for a number of days. They work in the house leader's office, and I was wondering why. This is something that should be taken into consideration by the protective staff. They are smiling now. The protective staff should make an examination to find out why they are there and what is their purpose. I know of no rule that the attendance in this house should be taken by two strongmen from the house leader's office.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**An hon. Member:** The Gestapo.

**Some hon. Members:** Out, out.

**An hon. Member:** Send the Hitler group home.