

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, March 21, 1972

The House met at 2 p.m.

PRIVILEGE

MR. KNOWLES (WINNIPEG NORTH CENTRE)—INCORRECT ANSWER TO WRITTEN QUESTION NO. 27

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise briefly on a question of privilege. In the answer to my written question No. 27, which appears in yesterday's *Hansard* at page 949, there is a rather substantial error. The number of persons listed as receiving the full amount of the guaranteed income supplement is shown as a little over 110,000, whereas the figure should be over 484,000. The department has admitted to me that there is a mistake and has assured me that a corrected reply will be forthcoming in a day or two. I trust, therefore, that anyone interested in these statistics will wait for the corrected reply.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

LABOUR, MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION

[Translation]

First report of Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration—Mr. Portelance.

[Editor's Note: For text of above report, see today's *Votes and Proceedings*.]

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[English]

AGRICULTURE

ANNOUNCEMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF LIVESTOCK DIVERSION PROGRAM FOR POTATOES IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, because of the interest that has been shown in the House in this matter, I wish to announce that the Agricultural Stabilization Board will implement tomorrow the livestock diversion program recently developed for potatoes in Prince Edward Island. In accordance with the concept of the advance payment, and as I indicated earlier in the House, those who do not wish to participate in this program can obtain possession of potatoes committed to the board by repayment of the advance. The Agricultural Stabilization Board will keep a close watch on supplies and prices, and the extent of the livestock feed program will depend upon the level of producer participation and price reaction.

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson) for his statement and to congratulate him on acquiescing to the requests of the Prince Edward Island Federation of Agriculture, the potato committee and other interested bodies. I hope, with him, that the program he has announced will prove to be beneficial both to potato growers and to livestock feeders in Prince Edward Island and that any potatoes not diverted but bought back will also be to the advantage of the growers.

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, as I understand the program undertaken by the government on behalf of potato growers, the government is taking a new approach to that followed up to now. In fact, it is a sort of combination cash payment and storage program, giving the producer the option of either taking his product out or leaving it in. As far as we are concerned, we will be prepared to assess the program when it is finished to see if it has really worked to the advantage and met the needs of the producers. In fact, in the final paragraph of his statement the minister said they will keep a close watch on the program to see how it works out.

• (1410)

On the order: Introduction of Bills.

Mr. Speaker: Introduction of bills.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Stand.

Mr. Speaker: There are ten private bills which were placed on the order paper yesterday for introduction. It was indicated by the Chair yesterday that an opportunity should be provided to study the bills from the procedural standpoint. By agreement with the hon. members concerned, no decision will be made at this time and the bills will be allowed to stand.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

POSSIBLE FURTHER FEDERAL STIMULUS AND TAX CUTS—STATEMENT ON TAX POLICY OR BUDGET BEFORE EASTER RECESS

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. In light of the pre-budget submission of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce that the economy needs further stimulation in 1972 and immediate personal and corporate tax cuts to increase demand and reduce unemployment, can the minister inform the House whether the government agrees