

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Stanley Haidasz (Parkdale): May I ask a supplementary question. I should like to ask the Minister of Finance if there is any hope that in 1968 not only industry but private citizens will be able to benefit from tax incentives to encourage them to instal government approved anti-pollution devices and the use of cleaner fuels?

Mr. Sharp: Yes, this matter is under consideration in connection with air pollution write-offs.

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe East): I should like to address a supplementary question to the Minister of Finance. Has he had consultations with the provincial governments on the question of incentives, and was there a federal representative at the recent meeting in Toronto?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): I might answer this question. This is a subject that was talked about with the provinces, and they are generally grateful for what exists in terms of tax deductions for anti-water pollution equipment.

Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. In view of the fact that the question concerning pollution was addressed to him by one of the members on his side of the house, may we now ask whether he has become the minister of pollution instead of the Prime Minister, and whether we may now address our questions on pollution to him?

Mr. Sharp: I don't think the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources would welcome questions being put to him about the income tax.

[Translation]

[Later:]

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, I realize I did not fully answer the question of the member for Simcoe East. He also asked whether the government was represented at the conference on pollution which was held recently in Toronto. Yes, my department sent Mr. Davidson who is head of the hydraulics section.

PUBLIC SERVICE**REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF BOXING DAY HOLIDAY**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gaston Isabelle (Gatineau): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the

Prime Minister. Can he tell the house whether he intends to uphold the decision requiring civil servants to work on Boxing day and the day after New Year's?

[English]

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): I think the Minister of National Revenue dealt with this matter yesterday.

Mr. J.-T. Richard (Ottawa East): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Revenue. Will the minister offer immediately for the consideration of this house an amendment to the Public Service Act to include among the legal holidays the days following Christmas and New Year's when such happen to fall on a Monday; or will he enter into immediate negotiations to reach agreement on this matter?

An hon. Member: A planted question.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): The question was answered yesterday.

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of National Revenue and President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I have no intention of introducing any proposed changes in the legislation in this regard. Of course the question of statutory holidays, along with other fringe benefits, will be a subject for collective bargaining in the public service which this government has introduced.

Mr. D. V. Pugh (Okanagan Boundary): A supplementary question to the Minister of National Revenue. When the minister is considering all these holidays will he also consider giving the people of Canada a holiday on April 30?

Mr. Benson: Mr. Speaker, from time to time when April 30 has fallen on a Sunday we have allowed people to file their tax returns on the Monday following.

FINANCE**INQUIRY AS TO RESULTS OF RECENT BOND ISSUE**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. D. S. Harkness (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. I wonder whether the minister could now answer the question I asked first on November 10 and which he said he would answer in his budget speech, and which when that was not done I repeated last Friday, in connection with how successful the