

to 20 minutes and that all other speeches shall be limited to 15 minutes. If there is agreement, perhaps that could be made an order.

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Yes, Mr. Speaker, that is our understanding.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: If there is agreement, it will be so ordered.

INQUIRY AS TO INTRODUCTION OF BILL CONCERNING
CIGARETTE ADVERTISING

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, before we leave the question of the business for the ensuing week, may I put a question to the government House leader. As he knows, we reached agreement concerning time limits on the proposed bill having to do with cigarette advertising. Can he tell us whether the bill will be before the House at an early date?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I cannot give an assurance that it will be before the House at an early date. Very likely it will not be before the Easter recess, and I cannot give a definite date after that.

[Translation]

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary?

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Hon. members will have noted that we are on an alleged point of order. Really, this is a continuation of the question period and these questions can be asked only with the consent of the House.

[Translation]

The hon. member for Joliette seems to want to raise a new point of order or ask a supplementary question. The question has been put, I believe, by the hon. member for Malpègue, with regard to the sequence of business which will be considered by the House in the next few days. The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre asked a supplementary question on this subject. It is only with the consent of the House that such questions will be allowed again.

Mr. La Salle: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member for Joliette rising on a question of privilege?

Mr. La Salle: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

I simply wish to inform the government House leader that in view of the importance of cigarette tobacco in the constituency of Joliette, our people are not in any great hurry to see a bill to restrict the use of tobacco come back to the House.

Alleged Failure to Improve Economy

• (3:10 p.m.)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—NON-CONFIDENCE MOTION—ALLEGED FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC POLICIES

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West) moved:

That this House condemns the government's economic policies which have failed to curb inflation, have brought severe unemployment to at least 675,000 Canadians, have accentuated regional disparity and have failed to promote regional development.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I could barely discuss adequately the motion before the House this afternoon in one hour and 20 minutes, let alone in 20 minutes. I will do my best to bring before the House what I feel is one of the major problems facing this country at present. We condemn the government because it has deliberately, through the instrumentality of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), the Minister of Finance (Mr. Benson) and the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Basford) thrown up a very thinly disguised smokescreen. It has attempted to say that it is going to fight unemployment and that it has succeeded in mastering inflation. Mr. Speaker, that, I say, is one of the slickest "con games" that could be thought of at the present time, because there is no such thing as this government having mastered inflation.

Mr. Dinsdale: Or anything else, for that matter.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I put it to Your Honour that this is a grave issue. The gravest issue this country can face is that there is no sign the government has met with any degree of success in dealing with the close to 700,000 unemployed, in dealing with the projections made for the next three quarters of the year and in dealing with what may happen with regard to inflation.

We have had opportunities of discussing this question with the Chairman of the Prices and Incomes Commission in committee, on the study of the estimates of the commission. I must say that, although that gentleman tried valiantly, he had to admit that there are indications, and these are easy to see, that by the third quarter of this year we shall have started on another run up the ladder of inflation. The problems of the country, therefore, will have merely escalated upward another degree. It is on that point that I want to condemn the government today.

First of all the Prime Minister last December, I believe in some interview or other, boasted that "we have now licked inflation" and that the government would turn to the No. 1 priority, dealing with unemployment. Well, they have not dealt at all with unemployment, because it has kept on going up. Let us look at the claims that were made by the Minister of Finance in his budget speech of December 3. Let us look at claims made by the Prime Minister, other ministers inside and outside the House, and by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs who boasted that the increase in the consumer price index in Canada was the lowest experienced by any industrialized country in the western world. You know,