Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): No; the hon. gentleman should not assume that. He should take into consideration when we are attempting to achieve the growth we need for our labour force that a good deal of our problems stem from slack economies in the United States, in Japan, and in Europe, which affect our exports. The Leader of the Opposition may smile, but the Premier of Nova Scotia was particularly concerned about falling exports from Nova Scotia which affect that particular economy. Mr. Speaker, the reason I said it would take two, three or four years to get inflation back to acceptable rates, whatever that might be, is, first, that it was severely imbedded into the Canadian, American and world economies and, second, that the only way to get it down in a shorter term would be by a fiscal and monetary policy which I do not think would be acceptable to the country or to this House in that it would provoke massive unemployment in Canada.

INFLATION—INQUIRY WHETHER GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS TO LIMIT WAGE INCREASES WILL APPLY TO OTHER FORMS OF INCOME

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): I have a final supplementary question for the Minister of Finance. In view of the minister's proposal, a fairly specific one, that wage increases in general should be limited to the targeted increase in the CPI, can the minister inform us what specific limitations he proposes on such other forms of income and on corporations, and how he will enforce those limitations on other forms of income and on corporations, and also whether he proposes that on wages and salaries?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): That is not exactly how the statement reads. In any event, I said to the conference and to the press afterward that what I presented at this stage was a sketch, not a blueprint. Details of the blueprint are now being evolved by the government in co-operation with the provinces and with those segments of the economy whose consent is necessary.

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[Translation]

LABOUR RELATIONS

LONGSHOREMEN'S STRIKE—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Labour.

Considering that the strike by longshoremen in the Quebec City, Trois-Rivières and Montreal ports is continuing in a distressing way, can the minister advise the House whether there are bargainings in progress and whether this dispute will be settled within the next few days?

[English]

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, let me answer the last part of the hon. member's question first by saying, yes, I hope that it will be settled. The parties are aware of the fact that we have a mediator on the scene, Mr. Charles Poirier, who is recognized as one of the outstanding authorities on the whole industry of the

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ports in this area. He is meeting with the parties, and the parties are aware that he is available to meet them again to try to achieve a settlement as soon as possible.

[Translation]

AGRICULTURE

POSSIBILITY OF SECURING SUPPLY OF FEED GRAIN IN VIEW OF LONGSHOREMEN'S STRIKE

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, there is a supplementary question I wish to direct to the Minister of Agriculture.

Taking into account the answer given by the Minister of Labour, can the Minister of Agriculture formally advise the House whether Quebec City area millers still have access to the Quebec City and Trois-Rivières port terminals and, if not, what steps he will take to assure that these millers will get adequate supply, pending the settlement of the strike?

[English]

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I understand there have been injunctions granted for elevators in Quebec, but still picketing is going on there. The employees refuse to cross the picket line. Yesterday in Quebec City over 400,000 bushels of corn were unloaded at the elevator. Other boats are moving into the area with grain, and we are still hopeful that some amiable agreement will be reached so that grain can move through those areas which are in desperate need of grain for livestock and poultry feed.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INFLATION—POWER OF PROPOSED BOARDS TO FORCE PEOPLE TO JUSTIFY WAGE AND PRICE INCREASES

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Finance. Now that after a long period of gestation the minister has laboured and produced this paper tiger referred to as consultation on inflation, can the hon. member say if the board or boards which he contemplates as being established under his proposals will be given adequate authority to compel various people from different sectors of the economy to appear before the boards and justify increases in prices or wages?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): I said in my statement yesterday that reference to the board or boards was part of the consultative process itself. We are asking the various sectors of the economy if they feel that a board or boards would be appropriate, and what the terms of reference of those boards should be. The hon. member should recognize that the process we are undertaking is a consultative one and that consultation is an essential part of it. The hon. member might think of ways of reaching more simplistic solutions, but in a free society I believe human involvement should make this possible.