

the minister of that, but I have very serious doubts about the veracity of the Premier of Nova Scotia.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is, of course, hardly a question of privilege, I suggest to the hon. member. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway after the hon. member for Athabasca.

\* \* \*

### INDIAN AFFAIRS

#### NORTHEASTERN ALBERTA—STATEMENT BY MINISTER ALLEGING BLACKMAIL BY INDIANS TO ACHIEVE AIMS

**Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca):** Mr. Speaker, my question was for the Prime Minister, but since he works only part time and has left the House I shall direct it to the Acting Prime Minister. Was the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development stating a new government policy of confrontation rather than consultation when he said on television last night that the Indian people in northeastern Alberta are trying to blackmail the government in order to achieve their social aims?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister is absent from the House for the purpose of attending a meeting with the Prime Minister of Malaysia. At the moment, I will only say I will bring this question to the attention of the Prime Minister, but I doubt very much whether what the hon. gentleman has said reflects the views of the minister.

**Mr. Yewchuk:** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the Acting Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has not been able to settle the problem in northeastern Alberta in a satisfactory manner, does the Prime Minister himself contemplate any assistance in this area?

\* \* \*

### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

#### WEEKLY STATEMENT

**Mr. Baldwin:** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the government House leader about the business for today, tomorrow and next week so far as it can be foreseen?

**Mr. MacEachen:** Mr. Speaker, the business for today will be a return to the tax bill—

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

**Mr. MacEachen:** —to be continued tomorrow. Perhaps I should say a word in respect of Bill C-244. I will be continuing discussions with the opposition parties in connection with Bill C-244. In this connection I should like to advise the House that unless satisfactory arrangements with the opposition parties can be concluded by Tuesday next which would bring about an end next week to the debate on Bill C-244, the government will not proceed further with this bill at this session and will make payment on Tuesday to the Canadian Wheat Board under the Temporary Wheat Reserves Act. I hope to be meeting with

my opposite numbers later in the day and probably we can discuss the matter further.

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

**Mr. Baldwin:** Mr. Speaker, I might ask the minister whether he does not think it would help the situation if he would muzzle some of his colleagues, both of high as well as low degree but rather than do that I will ask him instead if he will consult with his colleague, the minister answering for the Wheat Board, concerning the extent to which the government is prepared to consider the very reasonable proposition I put forward yesterday afternoon in debate which now appears to have some support from this side of the House as well as from the prairie provinces.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that that question is hardly in order at this time. The question period has expired. I believe the question asked by the hon. member had reference to the order of business of the House and I think we should not pursue the question period at this time.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, since this is the one point in the week when there is an announcement about coming House business and in view of the fact that the minister has said he will be meeting those of us who are his opposite numbers with regard to Bill C-244, may I express the hope that when he meets with us he will come with a statement of the changes the government might be prepared to make.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Orders of the day.

• (3:40 p.m.)

### GOVERNMENT ORDERS

#### INCOME TAX ACT

The House resumed, from Friday, October 1, consideration of the motion of Mr. Gray (for Mr. Benson) that Bill C-259, to amend the Income Tax Act and to make certain provisions and alterations in the statute law related to or consequential upon the amendments to that act, be read the second time and referred to the committee of the whole, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West)(p. 7763).

**Mr. James Hugh Faulkner (Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, I am very glad to be able to participate in this debate, particularly to deal with the amendment moved by the hon. member for Edmonton West (Mr. Lambert). I should like to begin by dealing with the wording of the amendment and making some comments on it. The amendment expresses deep concern and cites three particular problems: unacceptable levels of inflation, persisting unemployment, and a stagnant industry. All of us are concerned about the problem of unemployment, and I plan later in my remarks to deal specifically with that problem. But the motion deals with what it describes as unacceptable levels of inflation.