

Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Since the obligation to the Indian people for the treaty land antedated the creation of the park, we decided that this was an obligation we should honour. This was the decision taken by my predecessor and we are in the process of carrying it out. I would point out that the land in question represents only a minute fraction of the largest national park in Canada and that its removal from park status will not impair the value of the national park.

Mr. Elzinga: What guarantees, if any, have been negotiated to protect the park land surrounding the reserve areas?

Mr. Buchanan: The land is being excised. There are no guarantees. As far as the adjoining areas are concerned, they remain in the parks and are subject to the control which normally applies.

* * *

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Ken Hurlburt (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Secretary of State I would direct my question to the Acting Secretary of State. What criteria were used to fund projects under the student community service program? Can the minister inform us why all applications from native people under Treaty 7, with the exception of one, were rejected?

Mr. Speaker: Order. That information should be sought in some other way.

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS

ALLEGED POSSIBILITY OF DENIAL OF FUNDS IF LOCAL GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES NOT FOLLOWED—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Arnold Malone (Battle River): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. It concerns local government guidelines in connection with housing policy and education and the fear that if local Indian bands do not follow these guidelines their funds will be cut off. Will the minister tell us whether or not local bands will in fact be cut off from funds if they do not abide by these guidelines?

Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): These are guidelines which we have established for the operation of local government on the reserves; we feel they are reasonable guidelines having to do with normal administration, auditing and so on; we are asking the bands to agree to them and we expect they will be prepared to do so.

Mr. Malone: In view of the fact that according to a telegram I received this morning from the chief of the Samson band that there is to be a three-day conference concerning the guidelines in Edmonton on May 27, 28 and 29, would the minister allow some period of grace during

Privilege—Mr. Stevens

which to hear representations from the Indian people who have some serious misgivings in connection with these regulations?

Mr. Buchanan: As far as these guidelines are concerned, I have already indicated to the Indian people that we are prepared to regard them as being of an interim nature; we would discuss them and review them after they have been in operation for a year. There are further guidelines which have not yet been proclaimed and we have stated we are prepared to hear any representations regarding them.

* * *

THE BUDGET

DATE OF PRESENTATION

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, a question to the Minister of Finance who, I think, undertook to tell the House this week when the budget will be brought down. After a beautiful weekend given to optimism and making decisions, is he in a position today to tell the House when he will be bringing down the budget?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): I shall be able to announce the date this week, Mr. Speaker.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PRIVILEGE

MR. STEVENS—PROCEDURE FOLLOWED IN STANDING COMMITTEE—RULING BY MR. SPEAKER

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, on Friday last I gave notice of a question of privilege which I proposed, with your consent, to raise today. The matter concerns the obstruction of the business of the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs—business which was referred to that committee by this House for consideration and report. This obstruction was carried out on Thursday, May 15, by the newly elected chairman, the member for York Centre (Mr. Kaplan), certain other members of the government party who are members of the committee, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Gillespie), and the responsible officials of the office of the chief government whip.

● (1500)

During the course of the proceedings on the estimates of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, with a quorum present, I moved that vote L20, being a vote of \$38.1 million for the purchase by the government of Canada, be reduced to \$1. The chairman improperly permitted the minister, who had no status in the committee except that of a witness, to speak to my motion. During this delay, members of the government party, who were in a minority, left the committee without pausing to speak to