

*Oral Questions*

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I objected to a resolution for the implementation of such a scheme on January 1, 1974 as being unrealistic and I added that I had more confidence in the establishment of a guaranteed annual income for all the needy, including those from 60 to 64 years of age, than in the payment of pensions to everyone, even those who do not need any.

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[English]

**THE CANADIAN ECONOMY**

**ALLEGED PRINTING OF FOOD RATION STAMPS**

**Mr. Peter Reilly (Ottawa West):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the right hon. Prime Minister. Some week and a half ago, I believe, I asked him why, in view of his statement that there was no food shortage in Canada, the government had found it necessary to have ration stamps printed. His reply, to apply the kindest word to it, was equivocal, but he did say he would investigate. I wonder whether he has investigated and what he has found out?

● (1510)

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Yes, I did investigate it with various ministers who might conceivably be concerned. My investigation confirmed the impression I expressed in the House that the hon. member was flying a canard.

[Translation]

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Témiscamingue.

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question to the minister.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The hon. member for Témiscamingue would perhaps allow me to let the hon. member for Ottawa West put his supplementary question, after which I will get back to the previous question.

[English]

**Mr. Reilly:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege simply to say that I was not flying a canard but was operating on information I believe sincerely to be accurate. I will not stand for the imputation of motives by the Prime Minister. It is unparliamentary, unworthy of him, against the rules of the House, and he knows it.

**Mr. Trudeau:** On the question of privilege—

**Mr. Speaker:** The Chair, of course, will recognize the Prime Minister if he wishes to rise on a question of privilege, but I doubt very much whether we should pursue the matter.

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member will remember that I invited him to supply me with the source of the information and if indeed it is, as he says, honest information, perhaps he might have given it to me in the past two weeks.

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

[Mr. Matte.]

[Translation]

**SOCIAL SECURITY**

**POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF GUARANTEED ANNUAL INCOME PLAN—DETERMINATION OF METHOD OF PAYMENT**

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question to the hon. Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Since he just stated that he suggested at the liberal convention during the weekend that a measure be adopted for establishing a guaranteed annual income plan for people in need, and since he stated a moment ago that he is in favour of a system whereby those in need would receive assistance and others would not, can the minister specify who will decide who needs help and who does not?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to point out that I did not suggest at the convention what the hon. member for Témiscamingue says I did. As for his second point, I refer him to the working paper tabled in the House last April.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Before this discussion continues, I would like to remind hon. members that it is irregular to ask questions based on statements made outside this House.

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[English]

**MANPOWER**

**POSSIBLE REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF TRAINEES AT POINT EDWARD INSTITUTE—REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

**Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the fact that the federal-provincial manpower needs committee for Nova Scotia is today considering a recommendation to reduce the number of basic training for skill development places from 380 to 180 at the Point Edward Institute, and in view of the fact that there are long waiting lists for training at all Canada Manpower Centres in Cape Breton, would the minister intervene personally to see that the operations at this training institute are not diminished in any way whatsoever?

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, as I indicated privately to the hon. member, I am sympathetic to his representation. I will take special steps to examine the situation myself, but it has to be done in consultation and co-operation with the provinces, as I believe the hon. member knows.

**Mr. Muir:** Would the minister concern himself to the extent of suggesting to the committee that he should be fully informed as to the actual happening before the committee makes a decision that it may possibly regret a little later?

**Mr. Andras:** That representation will be given full consideration.