

Inquiries of the Ministry

tell us whether the grants to the Atlantic provinces would be available in the current fiscal year, would the Minister of Finance be prepared to give that information to the house today?

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Finance): What I should like to give to the house first, Mr. Speaker, is a correction of the premise of the question asked by the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate.

Mr. Pickersgill: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I wonder whether it is in order for the minister to do anything except answer the question.

Mr. Fleming: The Prime Minister did not say he would give that answer within a couple of days, as the hon. member has said.

Mr. Pickersgill: He said it would be apparent.

Mr. Fleming: Yes, that it would be apparent.

Mr. Pickersgill: Crystal gazing, I suppose.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I do not think we ought to enter into a debate on the background of this question. If the Minister of Finance does not wish to answer it, it might stand.

Mr. Fleming: The answer of the Prime Minister as it appears in *Hansard* is correct and stands.

Mr. Pickersgill: Just another broken promise.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Fleming: The hon. member has chosen to make a comment—I may say I am rising on a point of order—on an answer. That, of course, is clearly beyond the rights of the hon. member and is a breach of the rules of the house. Apart from that, however, on a question of privilege, may I say that there has been no breach of any promise at any time so far as this government is concerned. It has fulfilled its promises to the letter.

INQUIRY AS TO AMENDMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND INDIAN ACTS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Bonavista-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could ask the Acting Minister of Citizenship and Immigration whether it is the intention of the government to proceed with the amendments to the Canadian Citizenship Act and the Indian Act forecast earlier by the Prime Minister. My reason for asking is that it might make a good deal of difference to the nature of the debate later today if this information were available.

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Acting Minister of Citizenship and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, we have had before us for decision the question which the hon. gentleman raises, but I regret that I am not able to give him a definite reply.

SLAUGHTERING OF ANIMALS—INQUIRY AS TO SECOND READING OF AMENDING LEGISLATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. F. C. Christian (Okanagan Boundary): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Justice. Is it the intention of the government to proceed this session with the second reading of Bill No. 241, to amend the Criminal Code with reference to the slaughtering of animals?

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, as I made clear on the day the bill was given first reading, it is not the intention to give that bill second reading this session, for the reasons I then outlined.

INTRODUCTION OF REPRINT OF BILL NO. 237

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. W. Stuart (Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the house leader. In his opinion was it in order for the hon. member for Moose Jaw-Lake Centre to introduce last evening a reprint of Bill No. 237, at this stage of the proceedings?

Hon. Howard C. Green (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I am not deciding questions of order. That is Your Honour's privilege.

TRADE

LEAD AND ZINC—INQUIRY AS TO STEPS TAKEN TO PROTECT CANADIAN INTERESTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, my questions are always well based, but this one is based on solid rock foundations, namely on telegrams from miners' unions, municipalities, Canadian Legion posts and so on. I should like to direct it to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. In view of the daily growing concern over the possibility of the imposition of higher United States tariffs on lead and zinc, or the establishment of a quota system, would the minister inform the house of the response the government has received to its representations to the government of the United States on this question?

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Minister of Trade and Commerce): We appreciate fully the importance of the question, Mr. Speaker, and of