

Mr. Davis: This question is one of detail. I will inquire into the matter and get in touch with the hon. member.

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● (1500)

NATIONAL DEFENCE

REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF DECISION TO CLOSE RESEARCH CENTRE AT SUFFIELD, ALBERTA

Mr. Bert Hargrave (Medicine Hat): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Defence and refers to last week's announcement by the minister of the closing of the defence research activities at Suffield, Alberta. In view of the hardships imposed on some 184 families in that community who are affected by this decision, and in view of the tremendous loss of business activity in the Medicine Hat area due to this proposed action, will the minister now consider an immediate review of the local circumstances involved in this decision with a view to possible indefinite postponement of the announced closure?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for giving me notice that he intended to ask this question. I believe he is aware that the research establishment at Suffield has been phasing out for several years. My announcement last week was simply to confirm that the phase-out would continue for another three years and that the research activities will be terminated in 1977. However, Mr. Speaker, I can assure the hon. member that the personnel involved will have their positions protected as far as possible and we will make every effort to see that the people he is concerned about are successfully relocated.

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AGRICULTURE

IMPORTATION OF TURKEYS FROM UNITED STATES—REQUEST FOR TARIFF PROTECTION FOR WESTERN PRODUCERS OR IMPORT CONTROLS

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the fact that American turkeys are now coming into Ontario, thus driving down the price of western Canadian turkeys by 3½ cents a pound, is the minister prepared to give the western producers some tariff protection, or is he planning to impose import controls on American turkeys?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I have received a brief from the new Canadian turkey marketing board and at the present time we are considering the representations they have made to us.

IMPORTATION OF DES-FED CATTLE FROM UNITED STATES—STEPS TO PROTECT CANADIANS

Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of

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Agriculture. It concerns the thousands of American cattle that are being imported into Canada weekly. As these cattle can be fed DES, a food additive which is banned in Canada, what steps has his department taken to protect the Canadian people?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, in the United States the decision to ban DES has been thrown out of court. No cattle fed DES will be coming into Canada for at least six weeks, or possibly two months, because producers in that country will just be restarting their program now. They have plans to add the DES supplement to their cattle feed, but they are not going to do that and ship the cattle to us the next day. We are watching the situation, and we will meet with the Minister of National Health and Welfare later today.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We have reached or gone beyond the end of the question period but perhaps the Chair would be allowed briefly to recognize the hon. member for Shefford and the hon. member for Edmonton West and then call orders of the day.

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[Translation]

FINANCE

SUGGEST REMOVAL OF SIX-MONTH LIMIT ON LOANS TO PROVINCES BY BANK OF CANADA

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance.

In view of the fact that the Speech from the Throne recognizes and decides in favour of the formerly brilliant premier of British Columbia as regards provincial participation in bank ownership, does the minister intend to use this same opportunity to admit the necessity of eliminating the six-month limit on loans currently granted to the provinces by the Bank of Canada?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, perhaps I might elaborate on this question when introducing shortly legislation enabling the provinces to invest in chartered banks in Canada. As stated by the hon. member, it is a coincidence that the author of this proposal is today in the galleries.

[English]

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON ATTEMPTED REFORM OF INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND EFFECT OF GOLD MARKET ON CANADIAN DOLLAR

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Would the minister tell the House if he is going to make a statement on motions in the very near future, or possibly in the forthcoming debate, giving in detail the position of attempts to reform the International Monetary Fund, the results of the abortive conference in Rome, the related question of the effect on Canadian currency of the wild gold market, as well as all related matters?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I will be speaking in the debate on the address in