

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

inquiry into the large increase of 9.3 per cent in cumulative dividend payments, which are another form of income, made by Canadian companies for the first five months of this year?

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the pricing criteria which were agreed on at the national conference on price stability provided that increases in prices would have to be lower than increases in costs, and were designed to force companies to take any price increases out of profits. I think that is the result of that agreement. Dr. Young is now calling on others to make a contribution to fight against inflation.

**Mr. Lewis:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Am I right in drawing from the answer of the minister the conclusion that the only form of income that the Prices and Incomes Commission is interested in restraining is the wages of workers?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Obviously that kind of question is argumentative and not in order.

[Translation]

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

BILINGUAL BONUS FOR PROTECTIVE  
STAFF

**Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister.

Does the government intend to maintain its policy on bilingualism by granting a 7 per cent bonus to the bilingual members of the House protective staff?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Obviously this question is not for the ministry. The hon. member's inquiry should be sent in writing to the Chair.

**Mr. Asselin:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. Since it is forbidden under the rules to ask questions directly to the Chair, I thought it proper to direct it to the Prime Minister so that he may pass it on to you.

**Mr. Speaker:** It would not reach me. The hon. member must agree that under the Standing Orders, the procedure to be followed is that the hon. member should forward his question to the Chair.

[English]

## FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH PROVINCES  
RESPECTING CONTINENTAL SHELF RESOURCES

**Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. When the federal government unilaterally declared exclusive federal jurisdiction over the resources on the continental shelf, with narrow belts on the coast allocated to the provinces for jurisdictional purposes, this arrangement was not generally accepted by the provinces. My question is: In view of the possibility of oil being discovered in this area, what is the present state of negotiations with the provincial governments concerning jurisdiction over the resources on the continental shelf?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, this question would require a lengthy statement on motions. Since the government adopted a position in regard to a possible sharing with the provinces and the establishment of resources administration lines, there have been many meetings and a great deal of correspondence between the federal government and the provinces. Perhaps at some stage the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources will see fit to report progress to the House.

**Mr. Crouse:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the Prime Minister indicate when we may expect a report on motions on this very important and urgent matter, having regard to the possibility of an oil discovery on our continental shelf?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, the minister and the government are very aware of the urgency. That is why we have been working steadily for two years to obtain some kind of agreement from the provinces, but all have not yet reached agreement. I can only say that the minister is engaged in discussions with them and will report in due course.

## POLLUTION

OFFICIAL PROTESTS AGAINST PROPOSED  
OFFSHORE CONTROL AREA—ENFORCE-  
MENT OF LEGISLATION

**Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Have any protests been received on an official basis concerning the 100-mile limit for pollution con-