Mr. Prud'homme: Mr. Speaker, I wish to remind the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen), who has been a member of this House longer than I have, that according to the Standing Orders a parliamentary secretary is allowed to ask questions. Unless the Chair informs me that it is against one Standing Order, I intend to continue doing my duty, which is as important as that of the hon. member for Yukon.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Nielsen: On the question of privilege-

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I hope it will be a different question of privilege. The hon. member raised a question of privilege which was perhaps more a point of order and the hon. member who asked the question has responded. I doubt that any purpose would be served if we were to use the remaining minutes of the question period in debating the question of privilege.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

ALLEGED REQUEST BY DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES THAT MEMBERS STATE POLITICAL AFFILIATION WHEN SEEKING APPLICATION FORMS

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Is the minister aware that when inquiries are made at his departmental offices for a simple blank application form for DREE the caller is asked whether he is a member of the government side or a member of the opposition? That happened this morning. Can he assure us that all members will be treated equally?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

• (1450)

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I am appalled that such a question should be asked, if indeed the implication is what it appears to be. Certainly my suspicion is that it is a matter of becoming acquainted with new members and just asking—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Jamieson: However, whether or not that is the case, it is an entirely unnecessary question and I will see that it does not happen again. Perhaps the hon. member will give me the information.

BANKRUPTCY OF VALEWOOD PRODUCTS LIMITED— INQUIRY AS TO INVESTIGATION BY RCMP FRAUD BUREAU

Mr. Dick: Mr. Speaker, in view of fact that a DREE promoted industry, Valewood Products Limited in Renfrew, Ontario, has gone into bankruptcy and that the president and major stock owner had two previous business failures before obtaining a DREE grant, I wish to ask

Oral Questions

the minister whether or not, in view of the fact that he has just built a new apartment building in Palm Springs, Florida, the minister is recommending that the RCMP fraud investigation bureau investigate this bankruptcy?

Mr. Jamieson: If it were to be a question of investigating the bankruptcy it would be a matter, I would imagine, either for the Solicitor General or some other minister. But I will be glad to look into the details that the hon. member has outlined.

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—INQUIRY AS TO ELIGIBILITY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISTRICTS FOR GRANTS

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): I should like to direct a question, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Has a decision in fact been made by his department disqualifying local government districts from being eligible for LIP grants?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): I did not quite catch the question. Would the hon. member kindly repeat it?

Mr. Epp: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I wish to ask the minister whether the minister or officials of his department have made a decision which disqualifies local government districts as they exist in Manitoba from being eligible for LIP grants, as they were last year?

Mr. Andras: Off the cuff I would say the answer to that is no. I certainly know of no directive or policy decision that has been made to exclude such organizations. Most certainly municipal organizations are eligible. However, rather than give the hon. member a final answer today I would appreciate an opportunity to doublecheck that information.

HISTORIC SITES

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM, HERITAGE CANADA—AMOUNT OF FUNDS ALLOCATED

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In view of the fact that last year the government announced a new program called Heritage Canada, which was to be used primarily for the preservation of historic sites and buildings, when will this new program start functioning and what sum has been allocated to it?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, this corporation has not been set up yet. I had announced our proposal to establish this corporation and we hope that during the