

the Prime Minister's disenchanted party members, John Turner?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I will follow the rules laid down by this House in making that announcement.

**Mr. Dick:** In view of the fact that the Prime Minister was able to bring on a by-election within 41 days of the resignation of Gérard Pelletier to fill that vacancy in the province of Quebec, why is the Prime Minister leaving constituencies in Newfoundland and Ontario so long without representation in the House of Commons by refusing to call by-elections at the earliest opportunity?

**Mr. Alkenbrack:** Because we in Ontario are second-class citizens.

**Mr. Trudeau:** I repeat, Mr. Speaker, I am following the cardinal rules laid down by the House in this matter. In the case of Newfoundland, the vacancy was caused by a Tory member resigning. In the case of Hochelaga, it was a minister of the Crown resigning.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

\* \* \*

## HARBOURS

### HALIFAX—POSSIBILITY OF FEDERAL AID IN CONSTRUCTION OF CONTAINER FACILITIES

**Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants):** Mr. Speaker, I am sorry to interrupt the debate now going on, but I have a question for the Minister of Transport. It arises out of last week's decision to have a federal-provincial study on the feasibility of expanding container facilities in Halifax harbour. Does this federal participation mean, should the need for more facilities for the most active container port in eastern Canada be proven, that federal moneys will be spent on new container facilities there? I ask this because we have never had a direct public answer from the National Harbours Board.

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, it should be well recognized that there is a very fundamental federal involvement in port construction. That would ordinarily involve us in legitimate and needed expenditures in any port, including the port of Halifax. Therefore, the basic answer to the question is yes. Of course, that in no way prejudices the issue as to whether the particular facility recommended is needed and further study will be made for that purpose.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

## AGRICULTURE

### DAIRYING—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE NEW POLICY WILL NOT CAUSE LOSS TO PRODUCERS

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Agriculture.

## Oral Questions

Since the dairy producers are concerned by the future plans of the federal Department of Agriculture, could the minister assure the dairy producers that his new dairy policy will not mean any loss of income in comparison with last year, because some dairy producers state that as a result of his new dairy policy they will lose from \$5,000 to \$6,000 a year?

[English]

**Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, the milk management supply committee is made up of people from all over Canada, such as provincial representatives, producer representatives and people from the trade. They are meeting in Ottawa today and possibly tomorrow. It is my opinion that people who are productive should be paid for their production. Because they over-produce, they should not be penalized by being asked to give away their produce. In no way will I be responsible for such a program as that.

\* \* \*

## THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

### ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM—POSSIBILITY OF INCLUDING OIL PRICES WITHIN GUIDELINES

**Mr. Andy Hogan (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. Nova Scotia Premier Gerald Regan was reported in Saturday's *Globe and Mail* as accusing Ottawa of hypocritical expediency for leaving crude oil prices outside the anti-inflation program. In view of this assessment by a fellow Liberal, will the minister now bring crude oil prices under the anti-inflation guidelines?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance):** No, Mr. Speaker.

### SUGGESTED INCREASE IN EQUALIZATION PAYMENTS TO NOVA SCOTIA AND MAINTENANCE OF OIL SUBSIDIES

**Mr. Andy Hogan (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** Is the minister prepared to make very substantial increases in the equalization grants to the province of Nova Scotia as well as maintain the present level of import oil subsidies to offset a severe decline in that province's economy?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I should point out to the hon. member there have been substantial increases in the equalization payments to Nova Scotia and the other Atlantic provinces in recent years. As to whether there should be a special subsidy for Nova Scotia so it will have a special Nova Scotia oil price as opposed to that payable by the rest of Canadians, it is not a course of action which commends itself to me.