

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** Mr. Speaker, it is a little difficult to separate the wheat from the chaff in this question.

**An hon. Member:** You don't even know the difference.

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** The answer is no, Mr. Speaker, the action by the Governor of the Bank of Canada will not affect the date of the budget.

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### BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

#### PROPOSAL TO REVIVE COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY ON CERTAIN OPPOSITION DAYS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the government House leader. In light of the refusal of the government to make available an allotted day for the opposition before the budget, which will result in 13 allotted days being concentrated within the period of 22 sitting days, a clear violation of the spirit of the rules and a breach of the undertaking by the Prime Minister, will the government House leader consult with his colleagues in respect of reviving the Committee of Supply for five of the opposition days, permitting the opposition to choose the department's estimates to be debated in the Committee of Supply, in order that the people of Canada will have the chance, through their elected representatives, to say what they think about the number one issue in this country today?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1440)

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, I certainly appreciate the implicit assumption in the hon. member's question that the government can survive a budget and will be able to continue into the normal supply period. I have always had a hankering for the Committee of Supply, and I certainly would consider some method by which that objective could be achieved in the Committee of Supply or with Mr. Speaker in the Chair, so that members could deal with the estimates. I certainly would consider that.

**Mr. Baldwin:** I thank the hon. gentleman for what he is saying, which is of course in accordance with what the procedure committee proposed in its first report last session. Will the government House leader then consider adopting this suggestion within the next ten days so that we will not have to wait until a period after the budget when we will have all these days concentrated together, which will not be good parliamentary practice?

**Mr. Hees:** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

**Mr. MacEachen:** I do not think I can commit myself to the timing of any allotted day, but I certainly will keep in mind the general advice that the hon. member has given.

### Oral Questions

**Mr. Speaker:** The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Prince George on a supplementary, and then the hon. member for Bellechasse.

#### REASON FOR FAILURE TO GRANT OPPOSITION DAY

**Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings):** You said George, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** I recognized the hon. member.

**Mr. Hees:** I have a supplementary question for the Acting Prime Minister. Since the present week gives the government five days which the government did not expect to have for its legislative program, could the Acting Prime Minister give one good reason why the government will not allow an opposition day to be held this week in this found time?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I have the utmost confidence in the leader of the House who has done such an excellent job.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

**Mr. Baldwin:** Let's put it to a vote.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Bellechasse.

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[Translation]

### HOUSING

#### DATE OF AGREEMENT WITH QUEBEC

**Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, I direct my question to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs.

Since several municipalities in Quebec cannot fully benefit from Bill C-133 because no overall agreement has been concluded by Ottawa and Quebec, will the minister tell the House whether such an agreement is about to be signed and, if not, what prevents the conclusion of this agreement?

[English]

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, it has not been signed simply because it is still being negotiated between the government of Canada and the government of the province of Quebec.

[Translation]

**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary.

I remember distinctly that the minister declared at the beginning of the session that negotiations were getting to an end. May I ask once more whether we can hope that an agreement will be reached and signed in the near future so that an encouraging answer may be given to municipalities?