

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

[Translation]

**Mr. Chrétien:** As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, after introducing the resolution concerning the establishment of an Indian claims commission, I received representations from some organizations. Some remarks were also made to me in the course of subsequent discussions I had with Indians in Canada. Therefore, I consider it desirable to make a thorough study of such representations before I announce definitely the government policy.

[English]

**Mr. Lewis:** Mr. Speaker, the minister has still not answered part of my last question. He has been giving us vague dates progressively later throughout this entire proceeding. Can he indicate now when we can expect that bill?

[Translation]

**Mr. Chrétien:** As soon as possible, Mr. Speaker.

**EXHIBITIONS****MAN AND HIS WORLD—DECISION TO DISCONTINUE**

**Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question to the Prime Minister.

Since he is aware that the closing of Man and His World was announced yesterday, could the right hon. gentleman tell us whether he intends to consult with the provincial and municipal authorities in order to find a solution to this serious problem as quickly as possible?

**Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, there have already been consultations, which went on for several months, at the request of the City of Montreal, with the federal government and also, I think, with the provincial government. Following those talks, the City of Montreal has reached a decision that comes under its jurisdiction. We have nothing else to say.

**Mr. Rondeau:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a supplementary question.

Like the authorities of the City of Montreal, whose decision we heard about last night, does the federal government propose to do something to save Man and His World?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, Man and His World does not come under our authority; we cannot do anything on our own initiative. I repeat that we have discussed the matter with the officials of the City of Montreal every time they requested it.

[Mr. Lewis.]

[Later:]

**Mr. André Fortin (Loibinière):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question about the closing of "Man and His World".

Could the Prime Minister tell us if his government would take part in a tripartite commission: federal, provincial and municipal, in order to take over the financial matter of "Man and His World" and to allow the general public to benefit from it?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, the question is rather an hypothetical one. The City of Montreal would first of all have to think about setting up such a commission. The house knows that the World Exhibition ended almost a year and a half ago and that it is the City of Montreal that assumed the responsibility of continuing its operation. It became a thing which was amenable to it and not any more to us. On the contrary, for a long time the government has been considering solutions to liquidate its commitments with regard to the Expo 67, that is to liquidate the company which, I think, is called the Canadian Corporation for the World Exhibition. The solution is not our concern any more. It is up to the city of Montreal to judge whether or not it wants to continue the operation of that municipal exhibition and, if it wishes to call on other financing sources, to propose what it would like.

**Mr. Fortin:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a supplementary question. The Prime Minister said that my question was hypothetical, but the financing of the World Exhibition is also hypothetical at the present time. Does he want to say that the federal government is trying to settle the matter? Does that mean that it would not be ready to buy "Man and His World" or the Corporation involved?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, the question has never been put to us. We have not been asked to buy "Man and His World". If the city of Montreal makes an offer, we will consider it, but if the hon. member wants to have the government say that we think we must devote a substantial part of the federal budget to recreate "Man and His World" or to operate it, I will say to him the we have unfortunately, to deal with other priorities and that, according to us, that one is not the first.