requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity, so the motion cannot be put.

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[English]

INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

CONCURRENCE IN SEVENTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

On the order: Motions:

December 13, 1973-Mr. Howard:

That the seventh report of the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development, presented to the House on Monday, December 10, 1973, be concurred in.

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I apologize for not catching your eye sooner. There is a notice of motion standing in my name seeking concurrence in the seventh report of the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development presented to the House on Monday, December 10. I seek the consent of the House to withdraw that motion.

Mr. Speaker: Is there agreement?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's notice of motion is withdrawn.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

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THE PRIME MINISTER

CONGRATULATIONS ON BIRTH OF SECOND SON

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, before I put a question, perhaps you might permit me to say a word of congratulations to the Prime Minister and Mrs. Trudeau. In a different context the Prime Minister has frequently spoken about the importance of timing.

• (1420)

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Stanfield: Certainly I must extend my congratulations to the Prime Minister and Mrs. Trudeau both in terms of timing and in terms of general felicitations. May I say in passing, Sir, that I share his joy to some extent because I had a second grandchild—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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Oral Questions

Mr. Stanfield: —a granddaughter, born on January 1, a second westerner. Henceforth I hope to be treated with more respect by the western members in the House.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

INDUSTRY PROPOSED TAKEOVER OF MACDONALD TOBACCO COMPANY BY UNITED STATES FIRM

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce who indicated to the House on December 21 that he had posed certain questions to a foreign company proposing to take over the Macdonald Tobacco Company and that he was awaiting responses. Has the minister received specific answers with regard to that takeover and, if so, is he satisfied or not that it would have significant benefit for Canadians within the meaning of the legislation, whenever it is proclaimed?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the hon. member on becoming a grandfather for the second time around. I wish to tell him I have not yet received any answer to my queries put to the Reynolds Tobacco Company.

PROPOSED TAKEOVER OF EMCO CORPORATION BY MASCO CORPORATION OF MICHIGAN

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary question relating to the proposed takeover of Emco Corporation and the questions which I believe the minister directed to the Masco Corporation of Michigan. Has the minister received any responses to those questions and, if so, is he satisfied that this takeover would be of significant benefit to Canada?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I met with the principals of the Masco Corporation yesterday. I put a number of propositions to them with respect to the whole question of significant benefit to Canada. They are considering their position, and I expect to hear from them very shortly.

Mr. Stanfield: In the present situation with the act not having been proclaimed, how does the minister propose to cope with these takeovers in the interregnum? He says he has received no reply with regard to the Macdonald Tobacco takeover. How does the minister propose to cope with it if the guidelines prove to be ineffective, as now seems to be the case? Is it the intention of the minister to proclaim that part of the legislation?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, we intend to proclaim the legislation just as fast as it is possible to do so. I do not