

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Hees:** Mr. Speaker, now that I have the Prime Minister's okay to call a meeting that he will attend at his house in Rockcliffe, I will be very glad to issue the invitations today. I take it that he will be there and will do his very best to persuade the labour leaders.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**An hon. Member:** No female company.

**REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION****POLICY RESPECTING GRANTS—CONTROL OF COMPANIES—ASSISTANCE TO SWIFTS**

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Is it government policy, in reference to regional development, to advance money to Canadian companies in preference to American controlled companies?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion):** No, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Woolliams:** I wonder if I might ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister justify his position, in light of that of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, by explaining to the House and the country why he is advancing to Swift's in Lethbridge several hundred thousand dollars to go into operation against Canadian owned and controlled companies? Why is he advancing money to United States companies that are not here already?

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Marchand (Langelier):** Mr. Speaker, in our regulations concerning industrial loans or incentives, we do not take into account the origin of the company but only the place where materials for the construction of industries are bought. There is no discrimination against businesses with regard to their origin.

[*English*]

**Mr. Woolliams:** May I ask a further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. With reference to the advancing of this money, is there any arrangement that the group that will be working in this plant will come from a certain section of Canada?

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Marchand (Langelier):** I believe the policy comes from the statement on materials

[Mr. Stanfield.]

to be used for the construction of factories. Such restrictions exist but there are no others.

[*English*]

**Mr. Woolliams:** Mr. Speaker, maybe the minister did not understand my question, which was very simple and to the point. Is there any arrangement, because of the advancing of this money against the interest of Canadian companies, that the labour that will work in this new plant, which is not there now, will come from a certain section of the country?

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Marchand (Langelier):** Mr. Speaker, I would need further details about the location or the area in Canada. If the hon. member would tell me to what area he is referring, I could give him a more specific answer.

[*Later:*]

[*English*]

**Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot):** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question arises from one asked by the hon. member for Calgary North. Is it a principle of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion to assist industry in certain areas of Canada in order to create greater employment in the area that the industry is going into?

[*Later:*]

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Marchand (Langelier):** Mr. Speaker, it is surely one of the objectives of the department to create a greater number of jobs where plants are set up.

[*English*]

**QUEBEC—GRANT TO INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES**

**Mr. John Burton (Regina East):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. May I ask the minister whether, prior to making a grant to International Business Machines Corporation for a project in Quebec, he consulted with the Minister of Communications in view of the interest expressed by the Minister of Communications in developing a Canadian controlled—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The question is not in order. The hon. member knows he cannot ask whether the minister has consulted with another minister before a decision has been taken.