

*Inquiries of the Ministry***FLOODS**NEW BRUNSWICK—GRANT TO ASSIST IN
PAYMENT OF DAMAGE

Mr. J. Chester MacRae (York-Sunbury): I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. I have given notice of the question. Will the minister advise if a grant has been authorized and made by the federal government to the province of New Brunswick to assist those who suffered heavy financial losses due to floods in that province in February?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): I thank the hon. member for having given me notice, however I am not aware of it. I think the Treasury Board has jurisdiction over this. I can inquire and make a report or ask the Treasury Board to make a report to the hon. member.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

COUNTERFEIT PILLS—INQUIRY AS TO ORIGIN

Mr. J. W. Monteith (Perth): My question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. An article datelined Montreal appeared recently in the *Globe and Mail* concerning the arrest of two persons for selling counterfeit pills. Reference was made to the fact that over 900,000 of these pills came from Ontario. In view of the fact that this is the kind of operation that could have underworld backing, does the government know in which Ontario plant these alleged counterfeit pills were made?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): It is my understanding that this matter is presently before the courts, and I shall await the outcome before making any comment.

THE CANADIAN ECONOMYINFLATION—SIX PER CENT WAGE INCREASE
GUIDELINE—PROPOSED COMPULSORY
LABOUR COURTS

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): My question is for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Have officials or members of the government been in communication with the government of Saskatchewan with regard to the suggested establishment of compulsory labour courts to enforce the 6 per cent guideline and, if so, has the government encouraged the idea?

[Mr. Speaker.]

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): I believe I answered that question on Thursday, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): The minister says he answered the question on Thursday. I do not believe he did so very clearly. May I address a supplementary question to the Prime Minister? In the light of recent statements by the government about Canadian unions, does the right hon. gentleman intend to protest the proposition of President Nixon that you cannot preserve the dollar by passing the buck?

GRAINWHEAT—ACREAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM—
COMPENSATION FOR ELEVATOR AGENTS
FOR TIME SPENT FILLING OUT FORMS

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Speaker. Does the government intend to compensate elevator agents who spend much time completing the forms which farmers must fill out in their applications under the Lift program, bearing in mind that this work sometimes interferes with the loading and acceptance of grain?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): These people are the employees of the elevator companies. In many instances in the past, after programs have been announced by the government, such as the arrangement for cash advances on farm-stored grain, the companies have assisted farmers in preparing their forms.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSIONINCENTIVE GRANTS—CHANGES TO CORRECT
DISPARITY BETWEEN PROVINCES

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): My question is directed to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Does the minister intend to bring in a measure to change the Industrial Incentives Act, bearing in mind the wide disparity between grants made in the various provinces of Canada, especially affecting some of the more depressed provinces?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, the difference is much smaller than the hon. member would seem to indicate, considering the population, and it is not our intention to