

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):—will the minister arrange for an immediate investigation into this accident and take steps that will assure the people of Winnipeg that there will not be a repetition?

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, my information is that a portion of the overhanging roof above the public entrance to the post office in Winnipeg fell during the night. Fortunately, no one was injured. Our consultants are at the present time searching for the cause of the accident, and hopefully will find a solution.

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FINANCE

FLOAT OF CANADIAN DOLLAR—POSSIBLE CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT POLICY

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance in respect of policy regarding the Canadian dollar, particularly in respect of the clean float policy of the government in the past. I should like to ask whether this float is still what you might say cleaner than clean, or does the expenditure of some \$300 million odd in recent months in respect of foreign exchange operations indicate that there has been some change in policy and that the float has become a little dirty?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): No, Mr. Speaker, there has been no change in policy. The Bank of Canada intervenes on behalf of the exchange fund only to maintain an orderly market. Sometimes that involves purchase and sometimes sale. If the hon. gentleman will look to the year 1973 he will see that the bank intervened on the other side.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I note that several hon. members are seeking to ask either supplementary questions on this subject or additional questions. We have already gone five minutes beyond the question period. I will try to give priority tomorrow to those who have tried to ask questions today, including the hon. member for Hamilton Mountain, the hon. member for Gaspé and others.

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PARLIAMENT HILL

POSSIBLE PERFORMANCE OF WEDDING CEREMONY BEFORE CENTENNIAL FLAME—INQUIRY AS TO PERMISSION

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I hesitate to rise on a question of privilege, but I wonder whether you would allow me to ask my question as it is of some importance and relates to an event that is to take place on Parliament Hill tomorrow. Apparently a wedding is scheduled to take place at 2.30 on Friday in front of the centennial flame on Parliament Hill to draw attention to religious discrimination in Canada. The marriage will be performed by a minister of the Church of Scientology. My question is directed to the Minister of

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Public Works. Will he inform the House whether permission was granted to allow this mock wedding in violation of our marriage laws which require that only licenced clergy or officials should perform such a ceremony?

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I was not invited to the wedding, but I will inquire.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. Bell: Mr. Speaker, my question has a marriage connection. How are the two co-house leaders of the House coming along with plans for business for the next few days?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, today we will continue—

Mr. Wagner: "We"!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. MacEachen: We will continue with the competition bill, and tomorrow, as my hon. friend knows, is an opposition day. Monday I hope to deal with the bill in the name of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Chrétien), Bill C-9. On Tuesday, Thursday and Friday of next week we will call opposition days, as well as on Monday and Tuesday of the following week. In order to satisfy the requirement under the rules we must call those opposition days. If my hon. friend will tell us the business he wants to call on those five days we would be grateful for his co-operation.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, I, too, have a question in respect of the business of the House. I did not hear the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen) say that Bill C-12 would be called on Monday along with the bill in the name of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Chrétien). Is that not the case, to have the two bills on the one day?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to add that. That is the amendment to the British North America Act.

Mr. Nielsen: Yes.

● (1520)

Mr. Whelan: I rise on a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker. It has just been brought to my attention that it is reported in the *Ottawa Citizen* that I said we need a 40 cents per pound increase in the price of beef. I said no such thing. We do not need this kind of increase in beef prices to make the industry a healthy one.