

Inquiries of the Ministry

we would welcome Japanese capital in such a venture, if it became feasible. No finite arrangements were made. No definite plan was arrived at. We merely did some selling, if you like, with respect to the Canadian position and the attractive opportunities in Canada in this regard.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. It is the same question of privilege that was raised by the Leader of the New Democratic Party. I had hoped that the minister, who I believed entertained a respect for Parliament, would give some reasonable explanation as to why this had happened. I realize that there is nothing any of us can do to prevent a minister from making a statement outside the House that ought to be made inside the House. But I did not think I would live to see the day in Parliament when a minister would dismiss such a thing in such a lighthearted way and indicate that he had rushed as quickly as possible to the television cameras in order to make a statement that he had been asked to make in the House.

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Stanfield: Although I recognize that there is nothing that I or any other member of the House can do about this, I hope that the members of the government will develop sufficient respect for this institution that they will not be contemptuous of the House in such an obvious and frivolous manner as the minister has just indicated.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Greene: Mr. Speaker, speaking to the hon. member's question of privilege and righteous indignation, may I say that I have sufficient respect for the House that I use its time circumspectly.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Greene: I do not waste the time of the House. If hon. members opposite would follow this example at times, we could get the business of the House done much more speedily.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am not sure whether we are progressing very much at this point. I wonder whether the minister might not agree, unless he has a further statement to make in reply to the question of privilege raised initially by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands and later by the Leader of the Opposition, that we return to the question raised originally by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands.

Mr. Bell: The minister's appeal is dismissed.

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Inasmuch as the government's policy has generally been understood to be that the control of uranium should stay very closely within the ambit of the government of Canada and the Atomic Energy Control Board, will the minister give the House the assurance that in any proposal for building an uranium enrichment plant in this

[Mr. Greene.]

country, the majority control will remain in the hands of either the Canadian government or the Canadian people and that any equity capital from Japan or elsewhere will be in the minority position or will be in the form of loan capital rather than equity capital?

Mr. Greene: Mr. Speaker, I regret that the Leader of the Opposition has rushed to the television cameras and could not stay to hear the answer to this very important question.

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Hees: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member rising on a question of privilege?

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, on a question of privilege, I should like to advise Joe the Joker that the Leader of the Opposition has not gone to the television cameras.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Hees: He has definitely not.

An hon. Member: He has.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Some hon. Members: Cheap, cheap!

Some hon. Members: Withdraw!

Mr. Hees: Withdraw!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Some hon. Members: Withdraw!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest that we have already spent a good deal of time on the question raised by the hon. member which has developed into a question of privilege and deteriorated further in the process. I should like to go on now to the next question and return to this one in a short while. I think we are being unfair to the hon. member for Lotbinière who has been waiting for 15 minutes for the opportunity to ask a question. Immediately following his question, I will return to the point raised by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands. Perhaps the atmosphere will clear a bit in the meantime.

* * *

[Translation]

LABOUR CONDITIONS

QUEBEC—AVAILABILITY OF EMPLOYMENT FOR CEGEP GRADUATES

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.