

Inquiries of the Ministry

minister can reply briefly. The Chair will then recognize the hon. member for Churchill.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, the minister's answer was quite lengthy, and I feel that I ought to be able to ask a supplementary question based on the minister's answer. I was trying to do that. I want to ask the minister whether he is now prepared to lay on the table of the House all correspondence between himself and the firm of A. Bélanger Ltée regarding the grant that was announced on June 30, 1971. I also ask the minister why he was so anxious to take the credit for this grant in the eyes of the public when he never made a correction?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is debate. The hon. member for Churchill.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, I have a further supplementary.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): It is useless to bring documents to the hon. member's attention. He does not know how to read them.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I recognized the hon. member on a supplementary and drew to his attention that other hon. members are interested in asking questions. The first part of the supplementary was legitimate. The hon. member invited the minister to indicate whether he was willing to table certain documents. If the hon. member will allow the minister to reply to that question, I will then go to the next questioner.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The record will show that the minister gave a misleading answer to the hon. member for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton. I raised this as a question of privilege yesterday.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): The hon. member does not know how to read.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, I merely asked the minister a question, and I have nothing to withdraw. He stands condemned by his own answer which he gave on February 28, as recorded at page 305 of *Hansard*.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is debate, and I really do not see why the hon. member should want to raise the matter as a point of order. It seems to me that the position is quite clear. A question was asked by the hon. member and a reply given by the minister. Certain facts may be in dispute, but we should not, I suggest, either by way of question of privilege or point of order, dispute or continue to debate the facts as alleged either by the minister or by the hon. member. I really think we should go to the next subject. I recognize the hon. member for Churchill and thank him for his patience.

* * *

CANADA PENSION PLAN**REQUEST THAT CONTRIBUTORS BE SUPPLIED WITH ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS**

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In

[Mr. Speaker.]

view of what appears to be an unfair obligation placed upon every contributor to the Canada Pension Plan to verify that his contributions are properly recorded and credited, has the minister given consideration to requesting Canada Pension Plan officials to supply each contributor with an annual statement of contributions, as is required by the government of private business and employers?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I will be pleased to look into this matter.

* * *

[Translation]

MANPOWER**LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—INQUIRY AS TO WHEN FUNDS WERE EXHAUSTED**

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour.

Could he tell us exactly on what day in January there were no longer any funds available for local initiative projects submitted by municipalities?

[English]

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): You were caught short. You do not even read your own departmental research. You do not even read your own statistics.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): That is what you say. You do not know what we do.

Mr. McGrath: You were caught with your pants down.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): You don't know what we do.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Champlain is trying to ask a question and these exchanges back and forth make it impossible for the Chair to hear the hon. member for Champlain. I think, even though he is at the other end of the chamber, he should be given a chance to ask his question.

[Translation]

Would the hon. member for Champlain please repeat his question? The interventions that have just taken place have prevented me from hearing him.

Mr. Matte: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Labour.

I would like to know the exact date in January when there were no longer any funds available for local initiative projects submitted by municipalities.

[English]

Hon. Martin P. O'Connell (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, if I understand the question correctly, the date is not in January at all. The cut-off date for applications was January 31. I have tried to indicate that the assessment process is continuing. All projects that will be approved have now been identified, but we are already in March, and we are still notifying and writing final contracts. If I understood correctly, the date cannot be identified as a date in January.