

*Oral Questions*

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** No, Mr. Speaker. That aspect of the problem has been set aside. As I said a moment ago, we have agreed with the easternmost provinces to set aside the question of boundaries, jurisdiction and sovereignty over certain offshore areas of the country. We are now discussing the problem of administration and division of the proceeds.

\* \* \*

**HOUSING**

MEASURES TO STIMULATE CONSTRUCTION IN 1974—  
POSITION OF POLICY PLANNING DIVISION, CENTRAL  
MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION

**Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. In view of the report made last Friday by the President of the Housing and Urban Development Association that housing starts will fall and prices rise further in 1974, can the minister tell us what his department is doing now to head off the anticipated housing crisis next year exceeding the one we have this year?

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, our predictions are still that we will exceed our medium term target for housing and that housing next year, 1974, will exceed 250,000 units per year. In addition, we are endeavouring and I am endeavouring to ensure that the provisions of the National Housing Act and the programs provided by it are used to the absolute maximum to provide social housing for those who are least able to afford housing.

**Mr. Broadbent:** In view of the fact it is the 250,000 figure that is too low, in view of the anticipated demand, and in view specifically of the forecast increase in family formations next year, following the baby boom right through the cycle that began some 25 years ago, there is going to be a slack. There is going to be an absence of construction compared with the demand. My question relates also to the report last Friday that starts in apartment construction are going to fall off and we will see not only a drop in single family units—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Would the hon. member ask the question?

**Mr. Broadbent:** It is important to get it clear for the minister, Mr. Speaker. In view of this slack, what does the minister plan to do now to increase production beyond the 250,000 unit level?

**Mr. Basford:** Mr. Speaker, the National Housing Act is primarily concerned with social housing for those who can least afford housing. Thus we are pressing forward as hard as we can to ensure that those people who can benefit from the social housing programs under the National Housing Act have housing available to them. The rate of construction next year will certainly exceed the rate of family formations in this country, and has for some years.

**Mr. Broadbent:** Can the minister inform the House whether, following the dismissal recently of Mr. Rudnicki, CMHC has now followed this up by abolishing the policy

[Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain).]

planning division of CMHC, and can he also inform the House whether or not a senior planning officer concerned specifically with native peoples' housing has resigned as of last week?

**Mr. Basford:** Mr. Speaker, the first part of the question is not correct. There is, as has been going on for some 18 months, a reorganization study within the organization and any reorganization that takes place will always maintain a strong policy planning concept development agency. As to the second part of the question, I have not been so informed.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

**SHIPBUILDING**

SUBSIDIES TO DAVIE SHIPBUILDING, LAUZON TO PROVIDE  
EMPLOYMENT

**Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

In view of the great number of lay-offs in the Lauzon shipyards, could the minister say to the House whether grants awarded by his department to that firm for shipbuilding which he mentioned in the House a couple of weeks ago, will allow additional jobs during the winter?

[English]

**Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, I think that the shipbuilding program and the shipbuilding temporary assistance provisions are working very well and, indeed, have helped to put the Canadian shipbuilding industry on a world competitive basis.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for South Shore. Order, please. This is becoming too confusing.

[Translation]

I think that the hon. member for Bellechasse who was waiting for the simultaneous translation of the minister's answer could ask a supplementary question, followed by the hon. member for South Shore who wishes to ask a supplementary question on this afternoon's first question.

**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You have understood well my hesitation, for I was indeed waiting for the interpretation.

My supplementary question is the following. I understand that the department's policy has helped maintained Lauzon shipyards in operation, but I would ask the minister, when grants are given to this corporation, if certain conditions are imposed so that the company continues operating, mainly during periods in which the government goes all out to maintain employment at the highest level.

I would appreciate more details in this regard.

[English]

**Mr. Gillespie:** Perhaps I could clarify it by saying that assistance to the shipyards is not so much in the form of grants as it is in the form of a subsidy to the shipbuilding firms in seeking and getting foreign business as well as