CANADIAN ARMED FORCES—OFFICER REQUIREMENTS

Question No. 1,108-Mr. Forrestall:

What is the current requirement per year of new officers in the Armed Forces and, of these, how many at university graduate level?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence): In 1971-72, 749. Of these 358 will be graduating from subsidized university training plans and 140 will be commissioned from the ranks. Of the remaining 251 it is hoped as many as possible will be university graduates, or, as a minimum, hold a diploma from an accredited technological institute. Any additional requirements may be met by enrolling high school matriculants through the Officer Candidate Training Plan. Once the current force reduction has been accomplished it is estimated that the annual requirement for officers will be approximately 1,100 per year, 60% of whom we hope will be university graduates.

CANADIAN ARMED FORCES-RECRUIT INTAKE

Question No. 1,109-Mr. Forrestall:

What is the ratio (numerical rather than fractional) of recruits as to enlisted personnel required in the Armed Forces to maintain an adequate complement?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence): Approximately one to eight.

QUESTION PASSED AS ORDER FOR RETURN

CMHC LOANS AND GRANTS, 1968-70

Question No. 785-Mr. Carter:

- 1. By province, what CMHC grants and loans, of all kinds, were made during the years 1968, 1969 and 1970?
- 2. How was the \$200 million dollar special fund announced in 1970 for experimental and innovation in new housing techniques distributed?

Return tabled.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

GOVERNMENT POLICY RESPECTING FOREIGN INVESTMENT
—NEW MEASURES TO ASSIST SLOW-GROWTH AREAS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance concerning unemployment, perhaps especially in the province of Quebec. In view of the importance the government of the province of Quebec is attaching to foreign investment in the creation of badly needed employment in that province and, indeed, has been looking as much to New York as to Ottawa in that regard, is it the policy of the government to encourage such foreign investment or is it the intention of the

Inquiries of the Ministry

government to restrict such foreign investment in Canada?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): My hon. friend knows that there are very few restrictions on foreign investment in Canada at present and that the government's future policy with respect to foreign investment is being studied by my colleague, the Minister of National Revenue. The government will be making a general statement in this regard in due course.

Mr. Stanfield: I should like to ask the minister whether he proposes to remove the uncertainties existing in the minds of foreign investors with regard to policies of ownership and taxation, and can the minister indicate whether there is any way in which a foreign investor can get an answer today from the government of Canada with respect to either of these questions?

Mr. Benson: With respect to the problem of foreign investment in Canada there are, as my hon. friend knows, very few limitations on foreign investment in Canada. With respect to the matter of future tax policy in the country, we have undertaken to bring forward legislation with respect to tax reform in the near future.

Mr. Stanfield: In view of the retroactive measures that the government has adopted, that assurance may not be of any comfort to anybody. I should like to ask the Minister of Regional Economic Development whether, in view of what can properly be described as the failure of his policies in areas of slow growth such as the Gaspe and others, he proposes to do anything to remove these uncertainties, and in particular whether he proposes to introduce any new measures to encourage such areas of slow growth?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Leader of the Opposition will appreciate that a question couched in such terms is not in order, but the matter being of wide general interest the minister might wish to reply to the question.

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I feel the hon. leader of the opposition should perhaps look at the statistics on the results of the programs adopted by the department; he would then see how many jobs have been created and how much money has been spent, specifically in his province. However, that does not meet the needs of the economy generally speaking, and simply stating without any reservations whatsoever that our programs have been a failure is really akin to irresponsibility—

[English]

FINANCE

PROPOSED FOREIGN TAKEOVERS—CRITICISMS BY BANK PRESIDENTS—REMOVAL OF EXEMPTION PROTECTING BANKS

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of