

The Address—Mr. Hansell

shortness of the season at Churchill, and also on account of the very limited amount of incoming cargo, I do not think it would be advisable to expand the facilities at that point.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**PRINTING OF AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. James Sinclair (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance): Last week the leader of the opposition raised a point concerning the printing of the public accounts. At that time I gave some reasons why the printing was delayed and said that I thought it unlikely they would be published for another two weeks. Since that time the comptroller general of the treasury has prepared a statement outlining the difficulties which arise in the publication of this very large book. I do not think there is any point in my giving the further reasons but he does say that it has been found possible now to turn out a special printing of the appendix, the report of the Auditor General, and that will be in the hands of all hon. members on Wednesday before the public accounts committee sits.

INQUIRY FOR RETURN**BUTTER AND MARGARINE—REGULATIONS REGARDING MANUFACTURE—INGREDIENTS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. Chester S. McLure (Queens): I do not want to ask a new question, but on November 7 I placed a question on the order paper which was passed as an order for return on November 12. It is a very important question, and reads as follows:

1. What are the regulations regarding the manufacture of (a) butter; (b) margarine, for human consumption?

2. What amount of each kind of oil or other ingredient is used in the manufacture of a pound of margarine?

No return has as yet been tabled, and I should like to bring this matter to the attention of the government so that the return will be made soon.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE**CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY**

The house resumed, from Wednesday, November 21, consideration of the motion of Mr. Robert Cauchon for an address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session,

[Mr. Chevrier.]

and the amendment thereto of Mr. Drew, and the amendment to the amendment of Mr. Quelch.

Mr. E. G. Hansell (Macleod): Mr. Speaker, it is not very usual for the good brethren to walk out before I announce my text, but under the circumstances, so much time having been spent today in the asking and answering of questions on the orders of the day, perhaps it is excusable. In this debate on the speech from the throne I wish to emphasize one or two points that have been mentioned during the course of the debate, but which so far have not received any satisfactory reply from the government side of the house.

The first matter is that, in spite of the government's action announced during the last session to curb the rising cost of living and put a brake on inflation, the cost of living still continues to rise. I was interested in listening to the speech by the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Sinclair) some weeks ago. The hon. member is, in my opinion, a rather capable individual and carries his burden quite well. During the course of his speech I could not help thinking that he was extremely apologetic when attempting to explain to the house how inflation was brought about, why the cost of living continues to rise, and the fact that there was not a great deal that the government could do about it. I fancy he spoke officially for the government, and I took his speech as a series of excuses.

In such a predicament as we find ourselves in today, with the average or lower income people finding it so difficult to meet the cost of living, we want something more than apologies and excuses. It is not good enough for members on the government side of the house to argue that the situation cannot be helped, that it is a world-wide situation, or attempting to compare Canada with some other countries and pleading that our situation here is not perhaps as bad as it is in some countries. It is not good enough for them to excuse the situation by saying it is a result of the war which left us with few consumer goods.

The attitude that things just happen is not the right attitude to take. Might I suggest to the government that nothing just happens. Surely, they have heard of that great law of cause and effect. This law is just as true in respect of the actions of the government, whose actions must be based on their policy, as it is in other fields. Nothing just happens. There is a reason for anything happening, and the reason that we have inflation today,