

Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): In so far as the Minister of National Health and Welfare is concerned: Yes. The Medical Research Council has clearance for production and distribution under C.08.005 of the Food and Drug Regulations for human growth hormone for treatment of growth hormone deficient children.

NEW HORIZONS PROGRAM

Question No. 1,033—**Mr. Patterson:**

For each year since the inception of the New Horizons Programme, what amount was spent in the Constituency of Fraser Valley East?

Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): In so far as the Minister of National Health and Welfare is concerned: 1972/73, \$19,480; 1973/74, \$17,967; 1974/75, \$58,609; 1975/76, \$93,321; 1976/77, \$100,355; 1977/78, \$77,483.

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[Translation]

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Mr. Yvon Pinard (Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, would you please call notice of motion No. 57 for the production of papers?

[Text]

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, EXCLUDING CROWN CORPORATIONS AND AGENCIES, WITH CANADIAN FIRMS AND INDIVIDUALS

Motion No. 57—**Mr. McKenzie:**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of all government contracts, excluding Crown corporations and agencies, with Canadian firms and individuals for the years 1976 and 1977.

Mr. Yvon Pinard (Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the number of papers requested is high and there are thousands of contracts. The necessary expenses in time and in personnel for the production of these documents would be considerable and prohibitive. Therefore, I ask that the hon. member withdraw his motion.

[English]

Mr. McKenzie: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

Shall the remaining notices of motions be allowed to stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Anti-Inflation Act

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

ANTI-INFLATION ACT

AMENDMENT TO EXTEND RANGE OF PERSONS TO WHOM ANTI-INFLATION GUIDELINES APPLY

The House resumed, from Tuesday, January 24, consideration of the motion of Mr. Chrétien that Bill C-18, to amend the Anti-Inflation Act and guidelines, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity to make a few brief comments on Bill C-18 which proposes changes to the Anti-Inflation Act. It would have been reasonable for even the most objective observer and follower of the progress of the anti-inflation program to expect that if any bill were to be placed before this House it should be one that would put this monster to bed—this cruel joke, this albatross which has been hung around our necks and the necks of the industrial and commercial interests in this nation. This monster has caused chaos in the economy and will continue to do so for some time. It will also disrupt the industrial relations process and a variety of other areas.

The bill attempts to correct some serious discrepancies that have occurred in the program. There were deficiencies inherent in the bill when it was introduced. Today the government is trying to legitimize its bastard child which was conceived—ill-conceived—some time ago.

This is not the first time the bill needed to be changed and the loopholes plugged, Mr. Speaker. Even before it became law the government had to make certain concessions to sectors of our society that were not happy with it. Organized labour and the unions were not happy with the legislation because of the effect on historic relationships and contracts. They demanded and received certain concessions to accommodate their sometimes legitimate and sometimes selfish aspirations. Some other groups called for changes before the legislation was passed, such as corporations dealing in export trade. Other sectors of the economy that could not reasonably be controlled such as agriculture and banking voiced their objections as well. Everything was to be straightened out and regulated, and there were to be changes in procedure in connection with the Bank Act.

● (1522)

Now, Mr. Speaker, to the Liberals the anti-inflation war has been a rather good election tool. As we are getting closer to the next election, it comes as no surprise to me that this situation should be brought before us again. Now one can say that the Minister of Finance (Mr. Chrétien) is quite right in saying the government has been consistent. At least during elections it has been consistent. In 1974 when we had proposed a program of major price controls, the Liberals were against it—it was a cruel joke; it would cripple the economy, it had not worked anywhere else in the world, it was a retrograde step in regulat-