

*Oral Questions*

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I communicated to the mayor of Hamilton my view that the reasons I saw published in the paper seemed rather absurd and that Mr. Pearson's contribution to the country needed no judgment by any government official or agency. Whether or not a particular home is marked as a historic site is up to my colleague, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. However, I have assured the mayor of Hamilton that if a proposal is put forward for a neighbourhood improvement plan throughout the whole area we will negotiate with Hamilton and the province of Ontario for the application of the National Housing Act provisions to that area.

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**AGRICULTURE****INQUIRY AS TO GOVERNMENT PLANS TO CONTROL PRODUCERS' COSTS**

**Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Finance. In view of the fact the government has now embarked on a policy of selective controls as seen by attempts to establish a maximum and minimum price on grain and to freeze the consumer price of milk, has the government any plans now to control the input costs of agricultural producers which are now rising at an unprecedented rate of 13 per cent?

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, the way in which the hon. gentleman phrases that question makes it difficult for me to reply to it because I cannot accept the tone of his preamble. One thing about which the government is concerned is the stabilization of farm income in this country, which of course has some relation to costs.

**Mr. Danforth:** In view of the fact that world prices of feed grains have pushed the feed costs of Canadian production of meat, dairy and poultry products to a virtual non-profit level, has the government any plans to control or subsidize these specific costs to guarantee adequate Canadian production for our consumers, or is the government relying on a further consumer price increase?

**Mr. Speaker:** The minister will be recognized to make a brief answer, but at least the first part of the question asked by the hon. member would require a lengthy statement which normally should be made on motions.

**Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West):** We cannot get them on motions.

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** Staying within the confines of your ruling, Mr. Speaker, may I say that the entire subject will be high on the agenda of the conference led by my colleague, the Minister of Agriculture, when he reviews with his provincial counterparts the whole question of the stabilization of farm income.

[Mr. O'Sullivan.]

**THE CANADIAN ECONOMY****GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO COPE WITH UNEMPLOYMENT AND INFLATION**

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Minister of Finance will be happy with the tone of my question. In view of the fact that as of mid-August 433,000 people in Canada were unemployed and looking for work, and in view of the fact that the rate of inflation is some 8 per cent, I should like to ask the minister whether he is able to propose one constructive measure that he proposes to take in the face of this rate of unemployment, this inflation, and the prospect of winter coming on, because I must tell the minister that his record as Minister of Finance in the last six months makes Edgar Benson look pretty good.

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I share the hon. gentleman's concern about the men and women of this country who have not yet found work. I have said on many occasions that the first priority of the government is still jobs. The hon. gentleman might recall the action of my colleague, the Minister of Manpower and Immigration and the fact that there is a \$100 million LIP program available this winter. There is also still unexpended \$275 million of the winter capital works projects program—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Perhaps the minister would like to return to motions to make a statement. We are running short of time.

**Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question I wish to address to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion on the government's fiscal and economic policies. In view of the continuing high unemployment, down slightly in the Atlantic region and up in Quebec, and the fact that these regions are the hardest hit by inflation, has the minister developed a new variable to his multi-dimensional, multi-faceted, decentralization policy which he is so busy expounding, tailored to meet the specific challenges of using DREE to rescue the poorer regions of Canada—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Chair will have to study the hon. member's question before being able to determine whether or not it is in order.

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[Translation]

**AIR TRANSPORT****ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW ROUTES TO UNITED STATES FROM CALGARY AND EDMONTON**

**Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport, and in order to refresh his memory, I will simply ask him what are the particulars of the arrangements with the United States in connection with new air routes for the cities of Edmonton and Calgary?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, the agreement is not ratified; it is simply a report and I may say incidentally that as soon as the agreement