

Inquiries of the Ministry

so that we and the country may know exactly what the policy of the government is in this respect.

Mr. Speaker: May I suggest to the hon. member that he put his question somewhat in this fashion—"Is it correct to say—" and so on.

Mr. Starr: Then I will ask the Minister of Finance whether his statement was correct when he said, in answer to the hon. member for Comox-Alberni:

I did not mean that by saying they would dovetail. I really meant that the winter works program and this program will be administered in such a way that they will not be overlapping.

Hon. Walter L. Gordon (Minister of Finance): It would seem to me that the answer to this question should be eminently clear even to the hon. member for Ontario. If he had been here, and if we had made a little more progress in getting the resolution through yesterday, we could have got on to the bill and the whole subject would have been clarified.

Mr. Knowles: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Is it not correct that the rule that there should not be debate on the orders of the day applies to both sides of the house?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

MUNICIPAL LOAN FUND—ELIGIBILITY OF
MUNICIPALITIES PARTICIPATING IN
WINTER WORKS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Labour, and ask him whether the municipal development loan fund will be available to municipalities that participate in the winter works incentive program?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, the answer to that question is yes.

PARLIAMENT HILL—REPORTED OVERTIME WORK
WITHOUT OVERTIME PAY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Labour arising out of an answer he gave yesterday. Can the minister report yet on whether people working on parliament hill at the repairs to the west block are in fact working 10 hours a day without overtime pay? If this is so, how does it square with the federal law regarding wages and hours of work? I ask the question because I for one do not like to walk through a picket line, as I did yesterday and today, to come to this building.

28902-5—61

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I promised the hon. member for Kootenay West that I would look into this matter and provide a more detailed answer today. I shall do so now in reply to his question of yesterday and the question today of my hon. friend.

Because of emergency conditions entailed by the convening of the NATO conference in the west block last month an overtime permit was issued authorizing a maximum 10-hour day and 60-hour week, valid for the period February 18, 1963 to May 17, 1963. This permit required the payment of premium overtime rates of not less than one and one half times the rates of pay required under the governing labour conditions of the contract to all employees for all hours worked in excess of eight per day and 44 per week.

An inspection of the records of the prime contractor indicated that the governing labour conditions were being fully observed. Complaints, however, were received respecting the wage rates and hours of work for employees of a subcontractor and an adjustment of \$6,304.35 was found to be necessary. This money is being recovered by the Department of Labour and will be paid out in due course to the workers concerned. A further inspection will be made of this contract to see that our fair labour conditions are being fully observed.

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister admit that this demonstrates the value of an active opposition?

Mr. MacEachen: It certainly demonstrates the value of an active government.

DEFENCE PRODUCTION

DISMISSAL OF CANADAIR EMPLOYEE ON
SECURITY GROUNDS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Defence Production. Has the minister received a complaint from Mr. Stewart Geddes to the effect that he was discharged from Canadair after seven years employment because the security division of the Department of Defence Production informed the company that he was a security risk, and that since then he has been unable to get other positions which were offered him, because the same information has been furnished to other companies? If so, is the minister taking steps to investigate these charges by Mr. Geddes?