

most of which are western industrialized nations. In the table showing the change between May 1958 and May 1966, the country with the least increase in the cost of living among these 27 countries was the United States, with a 12 per cent increase. The next one on the list was Canada with 15 per cent. I will not read the whole list but next to Canada was South Africa with 17 per cent; Australia with 18 per cent; Greece with 19 per cent; New Zealand with 21 per cent; Belgium and Luxembourg with 21 per cent; Germany with 22 per cent; and it goes right down to countries which have experienced a far worse situation than we have in Canada. For example Denmark shows an increase of 41 per cent in that period; Japan, 50 per cent; India, 50 per cent; Israel, 58 per cent; Spain 62 per cent; Turkey, 77 per cent; and Yugoslavia with an amazing 163 per cent. Sweden, the country from which Professor Kragh comes, was included in a group of Scandinavian countries showing Norway with a 28 per cent increase; Italy with 32 per cent; Sweden with 33 per cent; France with 36 per cent; and Finland with 39 per cent.

If we look at the table showing the change in the last 12 months we will see countries like the United States and Canada which respectively have shown an increase of 3 and 4 per cent in the cost of living while countries such as Greece have shown an increase of 5 per cent; Belgium an increase of 5 per cent; Pakistan of 9 per cent—although I do not think Pakistan is comparable to Canada—Denmark, 6 per cent; Japan, 5 per cent; India, 9 per cent; Israel, 8 per cent; Spain, 7 per cent. In either case, whether we consider the percentage change between May 1958 and May 1966 or the percentage change in the last 12 months, Canada has done a good deal better than most of the western industrialized nations of the world.

**Mr. Scott (Danforth):** Will the hon. member permit a question? Much as I deplore this careful selection of statistics from a committee's evidence, does the hon. member not think he ought to be fair and point out to the house that the professor indicated to us very clearly that the reason the Scandinavian countries could bear these large increases in the cost of living is that they did not have balance of payments problems and any increase approaching the one we have in Canada would have a disastrous effect?

I wish to protest against this careful selection of material from a committee which has not even reported to the house.

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

**Mr. Basford:** Of course the hon. member asked his question before I was allowed to finish what I had to say. Certainly, the professor made a great many qualifications, but if the hon. member thinks I am not quoting the professor correctly let me remind the hon. member that he was present at a meeting when the professor remarked that Canada and the United States, in the period which I mentioned, experienced a remarkably stable increase in prices. He also said, both in committee and in a private discussion which I had with him, that he was very envious of the experience in North America. He was speaking as an observer from Sweden, and he said that he was envious of our record in Canada, but that we must be aware there are many people in our country who are suffering real hardship as a result of the increases we have experienced in the last few months of this year. Of course, it is almost trite to say that those are mostly people on low and fixed incomes.

Mr. Speaker, may I call it six o'clock?

**PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION**

**SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED UNDER ADJOURNMENT MOTION**

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret):** It is my duty, pursuant to provisional standing order 39A, to inform the house that the questions to be raised at ten o'clock this day are as follows: the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett), Fisheries—British Columbia—request for amendment of wharfage regulations; the hon. member for Okanagan-Revelstoke (Mr. Johnston), Drugs—LSD—advertisements respecting importation.

The hon. member for Rosthern.

**Mr. Knowles:** I wonder whether the hon. member for Rosthern (Mr. Nasserden) would not prefer to make his speech at eight o'clock?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Public Works):** I wonder whether that remark is to be interpreted as a request by the hon. member opposite that the house suspend its sitting from now until eight o'clock? If it is, we, on this side of the house, are quite agreeable to this proposition.

Mr. Speaker, before you suspend the sitting I should like to ask that you call Item No. 98