

Privilege

performance over the long run. As well, new plant and equipment investment is up 13.6 per cent in all industry and up 27.9 per cent compared to last year in the manufacturing industry. Still the hon. gentleman weeps and moans and complains.

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• (1500)

ATLANTIC CANADA OPPORTUNITIES AGENCY**CO-OPERATIVE AGREEMENTS**

Mr. Peter L. McCreath (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. Nova Scotians welcomed the announcement last Friday that three more co-operative agreements have now been signed with the province of Nova Scotia, for which I commend the minister. Notwithstanding the allegations made last spring by members opposite that there would be no money for co-operative agreements because of the reprofiling of ACOA, can the minister advise us that co-operative agreements have now been signed with all four Atlantic provinces? Can the minister tell us if he anticipates more agreements with Nova Scotia.

Some Hon. Members: The best question today.

Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, the short answer is yes. I might say that we have made substantial progress in reaching co-operative agreements in all of the Atlantic provinces. Some have been signed, some will be signed soon and others are under negotiation. This is contrary to the gloomy prognostications that, as my colleague said, have been constantly made by the opposition.

Mr. Speaker: I should advise the House that pursuant to Standing Order 34(a), the House will now proceed with the daily routine of business until the completion of all items under Introduction of Government Bills, after which the House will proceed to Orders of the Day. Before that, I have to advise the House that I have a question of privilege from the Hon. Member for Skeena.

PRIVILEGE**HOUSEHOLDER OF MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND SERVICES—RECYCLED PAPER**

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, my question of privilege relates to a press release in a householder provided to the offices of all members of parliament here on the Hill today from the Minister of Supply and Services. It is both false and contemptuous of the House. It says: "SSC minister's householder first to be printed on recycled paper. The Hon. Paul Dick, Minister of Supply and Services announced today that the latest edition of his constituency householder is the first MP householder to be printed on recycled paper."

Frankly, all of us should be very proud to see this. The problem is that it goes on to say: "As part of a pilot project launched co-operatively by the House of Commons and the Queen's Printer, the householders, newsletters sent to constituents from their Members of Parliament, have been printed on Canadian made de-inked recycled paper."

I have contacted the House of Commons distribution and printing. This recycled paper is not available to Members of Parliament. It has only been made available to the Minister of Supply and Services. In fact, the members of the Board of Internal Economy have not dealt with this issue. This press release goes on to say: "Approximately 900 householders are printed annually on behalf of the House of Commons, and using this format will result in a 30 per cent cost savings."

Again, it is very nice, but the minister has pointed out a variety of other falsehoods within the householder itself.

The point I would like to make is that this recycled paper, which is a good idea and I am sure is supported unanimously by the House of Commons, is not available for any other member to put out a householder. We cannot get it for letterhead, we cannot get it for our business cards and we cannot get it for anything else.

It is very good that the minister is promoting something that is environmentally sound, but as we in this place know, the kinds of services available on the Hill for