

HOUSING

POSSIBILITY OF CONSULTATIONS WITH PROVINCES ON MEASURES TO STIMULATE CONSTRUCTION PRIOR TO BUDGET

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of State for Urban Affairs, and it is further to his reply to me on May 2 that he would have to find ways to get housing programs moving faster. Given the critical situation in the housing sector, I would like to ask the minister if, in connection with the consensus program, he plans to meet with his provincial counterparts prior to the presentation of the budget, and if he will be proposing shelter guidelines at any such meetings.

Hon. Barney Danson (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have spoken to my colleagues the ministers of housing in all the provinces in the last several days. I also have met with them during the consultation process. We continue a very amicable, constructive, and co-operative relationship.

Miss MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Could the minister say if there will be any formal meeting with the provincial ministers of housing prior to the presentation of the budget?

Mr. Danson: Formally or informally, I will be in touch with them, and we will be discussing all matters of mutual interest.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INFLATION—GOVERNMENT POSITION ON IMPOSITION OF PRICE AND WAGE CONTROLS

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Was the Minister of Finance correctly enunciating government policy when he categorically rejected involuntary wage and price restraints as one of the options open to the government to deal with the present problems?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this is the first news I have heard of this. I wonder if the hon. member is not being misinformed when he quotes the Minister of Finance as having said that.

Mr. Baldwin: I ask the Prime Minister directly whether the government has rejected involuntary wage and price restraints as one of the options open to deal with the present economic situation.

Mr. Trudeau: I am glad the hon. member got round to asking the question directly. The answer is no, Mr. Speaker.

Oral Questions

LABOUR CONDITIONS

LABOUR DISPUTES IN QUEBEC—GOVERNMENT ACTION TO CONTROL VIOLENCE

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. With regard to the escalation of labour disputes, and the considerable violence attached thereto, which has been such that the premier of Quebec has likened it almost to a form of war, what measures has the federal government considered to help deal with this situation and to limit the disputes within the confines of law and order?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member should know that the disputes are now arising as a result of a provincial inquiry into the construction unions in Quebec, and the whole area remains within provincial jurisdiction. We stand ready to hold discussions with the province, if it wants to turn to us for advice, but we do not feel that it is desirable for us to intervene into one of their areas of constitutional jurisdiction.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CAMBODIA—POSSIBLE COMMENDATION OF UNITED STATES FOR CURBING ACTS OF PIRACY

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has the minister sent, or will he be sending, a message of commendation to the United States government for the decisive and necessary action taken to curb acts of international piracy?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker. I have received one or two messages from the United States government explaining the reasons for their action and the outcome of the action, but I have not yet replied.

Mr. Muir: When the hon. gentleman has an opportunity to go over the whole matter, will he be replying along the lines I have mentioned?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I would like to think about that.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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FOREIGN INVESTMENT REVIEW ACT

DATE OF PROCLAMATION OF PART II

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In light of the recent policy statement of the minister of industry of Quebec indicating that his province now agrees that new foreign investment projects should be allowed to proceed only if they meet conditions which appear to be those required under the Foreign Investment