Inquiries of the Ministry

Auditor General, by filling his establishment up to authorized strength, indicates that it is possible to secure more people for his purposes and that they are indeed available and can be attracted and that more people are needed, then there is no question but that the authorized establishment would be increased. The principal purpose of trying to arrive at numerical ceilings in these cases is rather more for budgeting purposes in an effort to obtain some accurate forecast of the total cost of personnel in the government than to try to impose a manpower ceiling.

Mr. Stanfield: One further supplementary, Mr. Speaker. It is apparent that the Auditor General is dissatisfied with the arrangements. Could it be that the positions are set up in such a way and that the salary and other arrangements are such that it is not possible for the Auditor General to have these positions filled under the arrangements which now exist? Is the minister saying the fault is the Auditor General's or would he admit that there must be something wrong with the establishment?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

REPORT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNAL AUDIT SYSTEMS

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the President of the Treasury Board. In line with the recommendation contained in the Glassco Commission report that an internal audit system be established in all departments of government and in view of the fact that the Auditor General reports that these have been established in only 13 out of a total of 40 departments, can the minister say how soon these internal audit systems will be established in the other departments?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, as part of the internal organization we recognize it is an important problem. Without trying to establish a timetable I can say we are proceeding as rapidly as people can be recruited and the organization put in place to achieve this. It is recognized it is important. Indeed, in a number of major government departments such a system is already in operation.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that this program was instituted one year ago does the minister not think it should have been completed by now?

**Mr. Speaker:** The question clearly is argumentative.

[Mr. Drury.]

CHANGE IN FORMAT OF REPORT

Mr. Jack Cullen (Sarnia): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the President of the Treasury Board. I wonder whether the President of the Treasury Board is going to suggest that the Auditor General change the format of the presentation of his report so that it could be more objectively presented and in a fairer manner than is the case at present?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Who put you up to that one? Which minister wrote that question for you?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Cullen: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, following in the footsteps of my friend, the hon. member for Ontario, I do not wish to become involved in a debate, but I think it should be pointed out to members opposite that this is a question I worked on myself as a result of doing a bit of investigation and finding out that if the Auditor General presented a report on his own organization we would find that he overshot his budget—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am sure it is assumed and recognized by hon. members that all members prepare their own questions and give their own answers.

## INDUSTRY

CRITERIA FOR PAYMENTS TO AUTOMOBILE COMPANIES

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, I desire to direct a question to the Minister of Finance arising out of the Auditor General's report where he comments on the fact that in excess of \$180 million has been paid to automobile companies under Order in Council P.C. 1969-172. In view of the statement by the Auditor General to the effect that the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce and the Department of Finance follow criteria additional to those incorporated in Motor Vehicle Tariff Order 1965 and that the officials of these departments appear to place greater emphasis on criteria not included in the Tariff Order than on certain criteria which are included, can the minister tell the House what are the criteria used by the Department of Finance and by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce and what is the basis in law for those criteria?