

## PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION

**Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, since the Minister is unwilling to bring in legislation for the elimination of farm fuel taxes, will he support my Private Member's Motion, which would require the Government to do just that?

**Mr. Blackburn (Brant):** Save your voice and say yes.

**Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture):** The short answer to that question would be no, Mr. Speaker.

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## AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

## GENERAL MOTORS' INVESTMENT INTENTIONS

**Mr. Joe Reid (St. Catharines):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister responsible for Regional Industrial Expansion.

It is reported that General Motors will be making an investment of \$2 billion to automate and improve the Oshawa assembly plant.

**Mr. Broadbent:** It is more than \$2 billion.

**Mr. Reid:** Since jobs in the auto industry are basically located in the auto parts manufacturing sector, what proportion of Canadian content will go into parts sourcing for that assembly operation?

**Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member is quite correct. General Motors is planning to make an announcement later this month. The tone of the announcement will be very upbeat. It will be talking about the investment of hundreds of millions of dollars in Canada.

I want to assure the Hon. Member that some of that investment may also spill into his area, and I will be very pleased to see that.

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## INDIAN AFFAIRS

## HOUSING CONDITIONS ON RESERVES

**Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane-Superior):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Is he familiar with the view expressed in the task force report on Indians and natives that government housing programs should not serve as an incentive to encourage Indian people to continue living in their communities?

Does the Minister think that Indian people should be forced out of their communities and into cities where for them prospects for employment are next to nil, and where for them adequate and affordable housing is nearly impossible to obtain?

## Oral Questions

**Hon. David Crombie (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, I think the Hon. Member may want to look at that section again to see the context of it. Having said that, I think the Member is well aware that he has the opportunity to bring his views before the committee when that matter is discussed.

## TASK FORCE'S VIEW

**Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane-Superior):** Mr. Speaker, I am interested in the Minister's views. He is the man responsible.

Does he accept the task force view that isolated Indian communities should be satisfied with substandard quality in their housing?

**Hon. David Crombie (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, I think the Hon. Member is aware that this Minister does not believe that Indian people should be satisfied with substandard quality in anything.

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## TRADE

## LUMBER EXPORTS—PROPOSED UNITED STATES LEGISLATION

**Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Forestry. He will know that the Gibbons Bill is presently before the U.S. Congress with a very good chance of passing before the summer.

In view of the fact that this measure will have devastating consequences for many British Columbia communities and, in particular, for hundreds of thousands of forest workers in the IWA and other forest unions, when will the Minister get behind the forest industry in British Columbia and show some decisive leadership to ensure that Canadian softwood lumber exports will enjoy continued access to American markets?

**Hon. Gerald S. Merrithew (Minister of State (Forestry)):** Mr. Speaker, I do not know where the Hon. Member has been. He must be aware, of course, that even as late as last week our officials were working with the U.S. administration officials. There is an additional meeting in the middle of April. We have been working with provincial Governments, with industry and labour in dealing with this issue for many, many months.

● (1450)

PRIME MINISTER'S DISCUSSIONS WITH UNITED STATES  
PRESIDENT

**Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fundamental importance of this question to B.C. forest workers, as well as other forest workers across Canada, will the Minister assure the House and the people of Canada that the matter will be raised directly by the Prime Minister with the President of the United States during the upcoming summit meetings in Washington?