

which are operating better than any nuclear reactor in operation anywhere in the world.

The answer with regard to heavy water supply is that Atomic Energy of Canada has been active in the purchase of supplies abroad. We have noted that capacity is going up in the Port Hawkesbury plant. We hope to get the Glace Bay plant into operation as soon as possible. We must recognize that there will be a hiatus for a year or more until we have full domestic production. We hope, however, to get the closed plants back into operation as soon as possible. In part, the close-down—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I wonder if the minister would like to revert to motions to complete the statement.

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### THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

#### FOREIGN OWNERSHIP BILL—POSITION OF PROVINCIAL PREMIERS

**Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of National Revenue with respect to the bill he introduced the other day. Has he had any formal statements from the respective premiers throughout the country as to their attitude toward it? If so, will he be making a statement in this regard?

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, so far I am only aware of the comments they have made to the press. No formal, written statement has reached me. Perhaps some statements are on the way to the Prime Minister. Certainly we intend to seek the views of the provincial premiers in due course about the policy that we have announced.

**Mr. Alexander:** I am pleased to note, from the latter part of the minister's answer, that the government will be seeking the attitudes of the premiers in this regard. Can the minister advise us when these meetings will take place? Will he make an announcement in that regard to the House?

**Mr. Gray:** Mr. Speaker, dates have not yet been set for such meetings. I would be happy to convey this information to the House in some appropriate fashion once these dates have been worked out.

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### VETERANS AFFAIRS

#### SUGGESTED NEED FOR INCREASED PENSIONS—GOVERNMENT ACTION

**Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Does he expect to be in a position this month, or soon, to make a statement with regard to a government decision to increase veterans pensions and allowances in order to restore their purchasing power to former levels?

### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Woolliams:** Don't you know an election is coming up, Angus?

**Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Veterans Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, we are hearing quite a number of representations from various veterans organizations. Historically, it has been our habit to review these matters and make adjustments every two years. This policy would ordinarily have the effect of an adjustment being made in 1973.

**An hon. Member:** Is not 1972 a good year?

**Mr. Laing:** However, there are a number of pressing—

**Mr. Stanfield:** Considerations?

**Mr. Laing:**—matters that have been brought forward by a number of groups, and we have told them that we will discuss these with them. We are going to refer this matter to the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs so they can be heard.

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### PUBLIC SERVICE

#### TRANSLATORS—ALLEGED FAILURE TO PAY RETROACTIVE INCREASES WITHIN 90 DAYS—POSSIBLE CORRECTIVE ACTION

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question either to the President of the Treasury Board or to the Minister of Supply and Services. My question arises out of a contract that was signed in December, 1971, between Treasury Board and public servants in the translation group. Since the retroactive pay increases that were arrived at in that agreement were supposed to reach the employees within 90 days, and since many of them have not received these payments, and many of those received have been in error, what steps are to be taken to correct this situation?

**Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, there are a couple of issues involved, I think. One is the policy with relation to payment within 90 days, and the other is the correction of errors. I should like any information the hon. member has about errors because I have not heard anything. In relation to payment within 90 days, may I say that now that we have been pressing for a rather more rapid conclusion of collective bargaining agreements following or, indeed, in some cases preceding termination of contracts, the problem of retroactive pay and consequent adjustments to be made within 90 days will, hopefully, become a lot easier to deal with.

**Mr. Speaker:** Orders of the day.

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### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**Mr. MacLean:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, perhaps I could ask the government House leader if he will make a statement, either now or before the House rises today, about the business for Monday afternoon, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week.