

Privilege—Mr. Oberle

probably be drawing a much higher salary than I am, that is, if I could forecast what the interest rate will be here or anywhere else in the world.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Whelan: I would just say that we have a preferred interest rate for the Farm Credit Corporation. At the present time it is 12.75 per cent interest, which is a very enviable interest rate for anyone else in business. I am sure the hon. member recognizes that farmers are business people and that whatever interest rate we devise will be one that is fair and equitable.

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PRIVILEGE

MR. OBERLE—STATEMENT MADE BY MR. REGAN DURING QUESTION PERIOD

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Madam Speaker, I ask the Minister of Labour (Mr. Regan) to remain in the chamber for a minute. I am confident it has not escaped Your Honour that during the course of question period the Minister of Labour took it upon himself to insert his very limited jurisdiction in a labour dispute which is currently causing very serious difficulties in the province of British Columbia. In so doing, he departed very dramatically and radically from a well-accepted practice in the House of Commons, that a minister who has not examined a situation or has not availed himself of sufficient information from both parties involved in a labour dispute like this one, should not take it upon himself during question period on the grounds that we are dealing with a foreign company, to take sides in a labour dispute which in this case has caused serious interruptions in the province of British Columbia.

After I have examined the "blues", I wish to reserve the right to confront the minister further and hopefully to move a motion or, if nothing else, to give the minister an opportunity to correct his very unfortunate statement today. If he does not choose to do so—

Madam Speaker: Indeed the hon. member should wait until he sees the "blues". I fail to see that there is a question of privilege in that to which the hon. member has referred. If he is not satisfied with the answer he received, or if he has some objection to the way the answer was formulated, it is a matter of debate, but not a question of privilege.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

TABLING OF LIST OF ACTING MINISTERS

Hon. Yvon Pinard (President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, under Standing Order 41(2) I would like to table in both official languages copies of order in council 1980-2824, being the list of acting ministers.

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NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-60 entitled "An act to amend the National Energy Board Act".

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 1,323, 1,709, 1,777, 1,785 and 1,909.

I ask, Madam Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

[Text]

CANADIAN FILM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Question No. 1,323—**Mr. Friesen:**

Is it the intention of the CFDC to lower interest rates on interim and development loans and, if so (a) by what percentage (b) will existing loans be renegotiated (c) what amount will be lost in revenue?

Mr. Peter Stollery (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State and Minister of Communications): (a) No. The corporation has decided to maintain the normal interest rate, that is, the preferential bank rate plus 2 per cent.

(b) and (c) Not applicable.

CANEX—CFB ESQUIMALT

Question No. 1,709—**Mr. McKinnon:**

1. Are CANEX operations subsidized by the Department of National Defence at CFB Esquimalt and, if so, to what extent?