

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Marchand: I did not say in York-Scarborough what the revisions were or were intended to be. As soon as I know, the house will be the first to hear of it.

Mr. Starr: A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, based on the same speech. Inasmuch as the minister referred to some municipalities which are participating in the municipal winter works incentive program but are doing unnecessary work—he said the scheme was being misused by them—can he say whether the projects he referred to that are unnecessary or where there is misuse of the scheme were approved by his department?

Mr. Marchand: Mr. Speaker, projects are approved by the department but the administration is under provincial jurisdiction. As soon as the matter is approved by provincial authorities we simply pay. The provincial governments, as I say, are responsible for administration.

Mr. Starr: Is it not a fact that of necessity—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Starr: —the approval of the federal government has to be obtained before payment is made?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest that is not in keeping with the spirit of this period.

Mr. Starr: The minister is just passing the buck. That is the trouble.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member should not comment about speeches made outside the house.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. May I ask the Minister of Manpower and Immigration a related question, apropos the speech he made in Toronto over the week end, with reference to the expansion of the designated area program? As this matter comes under the aegis of the Minister of Industry, is it his intention or the intention of the Minister of Industry to make an announcement fairly soon about the expansion of the designated area program? If so, how soon can we expect that statement?

Mr. Marchand: Mr. Speaker, the only thing I said in York-Scarborough was, I think, that this program should be expanded but in collaboration with the provinces and the municipalities.

[Mr. Starr.]

Mr. Starr: I have a supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to hon. members that the last few minutes have not been productive. To my mind this is not the type of question which should be belaboured. The hon. member for Ontario has asked three questions on this subject, the hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam has asked a question, and now the hon. member for Ontario wants to ask a further question.

Mr. Starr: I want to ask another supplementary question having to do with the subject brought up by the hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam. Will the expansion of the designated areas include areas where there have been lay-offs and stoppages of work owing to the auto pact?

Mr. Marchand: Mr. Speaker, I did not give any detail. I just said that the program can be expanded but with the co-operation of the provinces and municipalities. If we go farther than that we would have to discuss the matter with the provinces and municipalities to know exactly to what extent they are ready to co-operate with us.

Mr. Starr: Are these speeches checked with the Prime Minister before they are delivered?

TRANSPORT**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND CAUSEWAY—
POSSIBLE DELAY THROUGH DESIGN
CHANGES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. David MacDonald (Prince): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Public Works. It really follows a question of last Friday put by the hon. member for Queens when the minister was not in the house. The Minister of Fisheries said he would bring it to the attention of the Minister of Public Works. It relates to possible design changes in the New Brunswick-Prince Edward Island causeway and is of great importance to all residents of Prince Edward Island. A report appeared last week in Prince Edward Island that an engineer had said that the proposed causeway designs are inadequate. Are design changes to be made?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, none are contemplated.

Mr. MacDonald (Prince): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister also assure us that the completion date is still 1970? Is that correct?