

Inquiries of the Ministry

[English]

MANPOWERALLEGED DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN IN
TRAINING PROGRAMS

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was beginning to be afraid I would never catch your eye.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mrs. MacInnis: I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the fact that the labour statistics show that women are bearing a disproportionate share of the increase in unemployment—

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Mrs. MacInnis:—will the minister discontinue the present discrimination against women in the training programs under his jurisdiction?

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I do not accept that there is discrimination. The programs available in the department are available on principles which apply equally to men and women. In each case an attempt is made to offer training to those who will be most helped by it toward finding jobs which may be available at the end of the training period.

Mrs. MacInnis: May I inquire why it is that so many more men are judged to be helped by training courses than women?

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FINANCESUGGESTED REPLACEMENT OF DEPARTMENT BY
SUPER MINISTRY

Mr. Mac T. McCutcheon (Lambton-Kent): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister. In doing so I assure him that we are all aware that he is as concerned as all of us about the deepening unemployment and inflation crisis. In view of this situation, has the government considered replacing the Department of Finance with a sort of super ministry, for example, a committee composed of successful, experienced, practical people who would be responsible for co-ordinating all economic decision-making in the government?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I understand this is the type of man who is running for the Liberal party in Nova Scotia in the by-election.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond—I believe the hon. member for Lambton-Kent has a supplementary.

[Mr. Goyer.]

Mr. McCutcheon: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. MacInnis: On a question of privilege—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I apologize to the hon. member, but the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond is rising on a question of privilege.

Mr. MacInnis: They never seem to learn, Mr. Speaker, they keep walking into it. My question of privilege arises from the fact that the Prime Minister has violated the rules of the House by answering a previous question when another member has asked a different question altogether. He took the opportunity to refer to my previous question. I will now ask him to take a good hard look at his cabinet and especially the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and find out from that minister why he is allowing this false advertising to go on.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Lambton-Kent may ask a supplementary, but I point out that there is only one minute remaining in the question period. I will then recognize the hon. member for Greenwood.

Mr. McCutcheon: Mr. Speaker, I am sure the Prime Minister did not understand my question when I asked him about a committee. I am sure it is not a committee that is running in Nova Scotia.

An hon. Member: You never know; it may be.

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IMMIGRATIONREPORTED SMUGGLING OF ITALIANS INTO UNITED
STATES FROM CANADA

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Is he planning to investigate or has he investigated the allegations that large numbers of people of Italian origin are entering Canada as visitors and then, at high prices, are being smuggled into the United States to be exploited there?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, of course the question of people entering Canada for a purpose other than that stated at the time of entry and a purpose which is therefore not fully legitimate is always of concern to us. We are always watching the matter and examining ways of improving our procedures in this connection. We also have some special investigations in hand in connection with some recent allegations.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day. Order, please. We have a few points of order before we go on with the business of the House. The hon. member for Hamilton West.

Mr. Alexander: Mr. Speaker, my point has reference to the answer given by the Prime Minister. He will be leaving the country shortly—