

Inquiries of the Ministry

LABOUR CONDITIONS

CONTINUATION OF OLDER WORKERS
INCENTIVE PROGRAM

On the orders of the day:

[*Translation*]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour.

Can he inform the house whether the government is granting at present or intends to grant this year a \$75 a month allowance to industries that will take on unemployed aged 45 and over? Are such amounts being paid at the present time and, if not, when does the minister believe that measure is to be applied?

[*Text*]

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, since this is a matter of policy with respect to the future of the older workers program, I cannot properly deal with it on orders of the day.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Labour.

Is the government now paying \$75 to certain industries employing people 45 years of age and over who were unemployed?

[*Text*]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

INQUIRY AS TO FRENCH EDITION OF GOVERNMENT TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

On the orders of the day:

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State.

Can he explain to the house why the telephone book issued by the federal government which we used to receive simultaneously in both languages, was published last year for the year 1964, in English only in the month of June, and why we have not received as yet the French version of that telephone book from the federal government?

Hon. Maurice Lamontagne (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I shall inquire into the matter and report thereon to the hon. member for Lapointe.

[Mr. Martin (Essex East).]

[*Text*]

NATIONAL DEFENCE

CONSIDERATION OF PURCHASE OF BUFFALO AIRCRAFT

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. Can the minister tell the house whether his department is considering the purchase of up to 25 Buffalo aircraft from the de Havilland Corporation; and will he tell the house who the ubiquitous spokesman is who is always giving the reports to the press?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I can only say that the initial stages of the Buffalo program have now been nearly completed, and I refer to the development of the aircraft on a co-operative basis by the United States army, the Department of Defence Production and the de Havilland company. A number of aircraft have been flown and are being given tests of evaluation.

It is only normal at this stage that the Department of National Defence would consider whether there is any requirement for these aircraft in respect of the roles that our forces will be asked to carry out in the future. No decision has yet been taken.

In respect of the latter part of the question, I am just as curious as my hon. friend.

[*Later:*]

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence. In view of the statements in the press about the allegations, claims, possibilities or probabilities with regard to changes in the national defence policy, regarding airplane purchases, could I ask the minister whether, if no decision has been made as yet, he will consider discussing this matter with the house and the defence committee before a decision is reached?

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Speaker, the requirements are set out in the white paper in general terms. I am not sure whether the committee had an opportunity to discuss these matters at their previous sittings, but I would think the department has to accept its responsibility for the administration of the policy which has been laid down by the government and accepted by the committee in making selections which it can recommend to the House of Commons.