Inquiries of the Ministry

[English]

Mr. McGrath: A supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We are running short of time. The hon, member has had two supplementaries and we have had other supplementaries on the same subject.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF ZENITH TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR INQUIRIES ABOUT NEW ACT

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): My question is for the Minister of Labour. It arises out of a full page advertisement in Weekend magazine glamourizing the provisions of the new Unemployment Insurance Act and asking citizens to drop in or telephone the nearest Unemployment Insurance Commission office. In light of this invitation, will the minister suggest or advise the commission to establish Zenith telephone numbers so that those people who may be 200, 300 or 400 miles away from the nearest office may be able to have the same facility of access as those living in urban centres?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): We have this type of operation in many parts of Canada, Mr. Speaker. Whether or not it should be expanded is another question. I will take notice of the hon. member's representation. If he can be more specific, we will see whether this would be useful in particular areas.

SUGGESTED RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE IN YUKON

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Assuming that the advertisement is an invitation to all Canadians to avail themselves of the services of the unemployment insurance offices, I ask the minister whether he will consider re-establishing in the Yukon a functioning unemployment insurance office to which the citizens there could have access?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): I will inquire from the commission and see if such a suggestion is realistic. If it is, I will be glad to do it.

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

REQUEST THAT TELEVISION PROGRAM, "THE TENTH DECADE", BE MADE AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS

Mr. Norman A. Cafik (Ontario): I have a question for the Secretary of State. In view of the educational and historic value and the excellent quality of the CBC series, "The Tenth Decade", will the minister see that prints of this series are made available for distribution to schools across Canada?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I believe the distribution of magnetoscopic picture tapes poses a number of technical problems, as well as a [Mr. Marchand (Langelier).]

number of problems with regard to labour contracts signed with the authors and artists. However, I have had the opportunity of discussing this matter with the management of the CBC but these talks are not yet completed.

[English]

[Later:]

Mr. Speaker: I believe the hon, member for Ontario has a supplementary to his previous question.

Mr. Cafik: Yes, Mr. Speaker. In his discussions with the CBC and the parties involved will the Secretary of State commit himself to at least approaching those who may have royalty rights and other residual rights in the production to see if they would be willing to waive them for the educational benefit of the people of this country?

[Later:]

[Translation]

Mr. Pelletier: This is worth considering, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

HEALTH

REASSESSMENT OF USE OF DDT AGAIN IN LIGHT OF FINDING BY RUSSIAN SCIENTISTS

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): My question is to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Because of reports over the weekend from the Soviet Union that Russian scientists have now discovered that the chemical commonly known as DDT is broken down by micro-organisms commonly found everywhere in the earth, will the minister have his department reassess whether DDT may again become available for use in Canada?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): I doubt whether that would be the finding of the department, Mr. Speaker, but I would be pleased to have them look at the matter again.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

GRANTING OF PARDONS TO PERSONS CONVICTED OF INDICTABLE OFFENCES—POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF LAW

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester North): My question is for the Minister of Justice. Is the minister satisfied with the legislation presently in effect with regard to the granting of pardons to persons who were formerly found guilty of indictable offences and, if not, does he plan to introduce legislation to amend the present law?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The second part of the question would be in order. The hon. member knows I have often taken exception to questions which simply invite a minister to state whether he is satisfied or dissatisfied with a situation. At that point the hon. member is asking for an opinion. The second part of the question is quite in order.