

Inquiries of the Ministry

who have been trained compared with their record beforehand. We are, of course, studying this continually in an effort to see whether it can be improved even more.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, will the minister undertake to make a statement to the House indicating the results of the training as to what percentage of those trained have in fact obtained jobs, what percentage are still unemployed when they finish their training and the other factors which he mentioned?

• (2:30 p.m.)

Mr. Lang: I did that, of course, in the last portion of the session at the time the department's estimates were before the Committee. I will look at whether we have a further report at this stage and, if so, make it available in due course.

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[Translation]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

EFFECT OF U.S. IMPORT SURTAX—STATUS OF CONSULTATIONS WITH UNITED STATES

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister.

Considering the 10 per cent surtax on imports entering the United States, has he any new indications that Canada will be protected against this measure?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, and that is why the government proposed a special measure to the House. Indeed, in the next few days we shall probably ask the House to pass the bill on third reading.

[English]

EFFECT OF UNITED STATES IMPORT SURTAX ON AGRICULTURE—REQUEST FOR DETAILS OF ASSISTANCE TO PRIMARY PRODUCERS

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): I should like to address a supplementary question to the Minister of Agriculture. Is he now in a position to announce details of the government decision to render assistance to primary producers of agricultural products who have been adversely affected by the United States surcharge, and what action are they required to take?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): I am not in a position to make that announcement today, but following the undertaking I gave to the House and the country in my comments about two weeks ago we have been working on some commodities and I hope that within the next few days I can give further details.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS

CORNWALL—ACTION TO AVERT FURTHER LAY-OFFS BY COURTAULDS—ASSISTANCE UNDER EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT BILL

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mine may be a related question, Mr. Speaker, to the Prime Minister.

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In light of the fact that Cornwall is already suffering under a 20 per cent unemployment rate, is the government going to take any action? In view of the announced delay until we deal with other matters, has he any intention to take specific action to avert further lay-offs at Courtaulds Limited as a result of the loss of business with the United States and because of the very specific situation there? Would he also indicate to the House and to the people of Cornwall whether or not the employment support bill can be expanded or whether or not there is any action under that which the Prime Minister might pursue to ensure against these proposed lay-offs?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): It is my understanding that the bill still before the House is one which will be applicable in all parts of Canada, and I am hopeful that the people of Cornwall and the industries in Cornwall will be able to obtain help under it.

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TRADE

POSSIBILITY OF SURTAX ON IMPORTS FROM JAPAN

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): My question is for the Minister of Finance. Would he say whether he or the Secretary of State for External Affairs or any of their officers indicated to the Japanese ambassador or any of his officials during the recent meeting in Toronto that unless Japan or other countries drastically reduce their exports to Canada, Canada would consider imposing a surcharge?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): No, Mr. Speaker, but one of the things we have brought to the attention of the Japanese is that we certainly did not want to be subject to receiving goods which are diverted because of the surtax in the United States.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Is the government of Canada considering a surcharge or any other measure which would effectively control the import into Canada of goods from countries such as Japan?

Mr. Benson: No, Mr. Speaker.

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[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ASSISTANCE IN RETURNING BODIES OF ACCIDENT VICTIMS FROM SPAIN

Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister in connection with the Valdepenas tragedy.

Is the Prime Minister considering the possibility of giving financial assistance for the air fares of persons whose relatives died in that tragedy, in order to enable them to bring back as soon as possible the remains of the victims, since they are unable to do so at the present time, in view of the considerable amount asked to send back the remains?