[English]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

ALLEGED DELAY IN PAYMENTS TO MARIA DOS ANJOS-REQUEST FOR ACTION TO AVOID ADMINISTRATIVE ERRORS

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration of which I have given him notice. Has the minister looked into the case of Maria Dos Anjos of Toronto whose unemployment insurance payments were held up for seven months? If so, is he now proposing to take steps to make sure that the administrative errors which brought about this almost unbelievable delay will not take place in the future?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair has serious reservations about the advisability from a procedural standpoint of hon. members referring to this kind of individual case. It seems to me that in such circumstances we could, from day to day, spend all of the question period looking into individual cases involving several departments. Perhaps the minister could reply briefly, but I would not wish to encourage hon. members to bring up individual cases in this way.

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, since the minister does not seem to want to answer, I might say on a point of order that this case is the most outstanding of a great many similar cases which have arisen in the past few months. I ask the minister to give some indication whether this kind of mess is going to be cleaned up.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

FLOODS

BRITISH COLUMBIA—ASSISTANCE TO FLOOD VICTIMS—POSSIBLE FEDERAL AID IN CONSTRUCTING CONTROL FACILITIES

Mr. Bruce Howard (Okanagan Boundary): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. It concerns the news release today which indicates that the federal government will make a financial contribution to assist flood victims in British Columbia. No mention was made in the news release of any federal assistance toward the creation of better flood control facilities in the affected areas. Has the province of British Columbia requested any assistance for the construction of permanent flood control facilities and, if so, what answer did the federal government give?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I did send a telegram to Premier Bennett indicating the ways and conditions under which the federal government would contribute to such cases of damage arising from flood. But on the latter part of the question concerning whether there was any request for flood control building, expenditures or works, there was no such request in the telegram to me. Of course, we have in the past, even in that area of British Columbia, contributed to flood control

Inquiries of the Ministry

works and we would consider doing so again if a request

AGRICULTURE

FROST DAMAGE IN SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO—INQUIRY AS TO ASSISTANCE

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the announcement of aid to flood victims in British Columbia would the right hon. gentleman consider aid to those who suffered from heavy frost in southern Ontario?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Crowfoot.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

TRUCKING INDUSTRY—POSSIBLE EXTENSION OF REGULATIONS GOVERNING HOURS OF WORK

Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Labour. Will the arrangements which are in effect with regard to the trucking industry concerning hours of work be extended past July 1 this year?

Hon. Martin P. O'Connell (Minister of Labour): If we are discussing the same regulations, they would come into effect on January 1, 1973.

COMBINES

ALLEGED SEIZURE OF DOCUMENTS FROM PFIZER COMPANY BY RESTRICTIVE TRADE PRACTICES COMMISSION

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether I could direct a further question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Can he tell the House whether the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has conducted raids or seized documents from the offices of the Pfizer Company in the course of an investigation into price-fixing in the sale of chemicals?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): I will do a check, but my opinion now is that it would be improper for me to make any comment. I will, however, check to see if that interpretation is correct.

Mr. Gleave: Would the minister, in the course of his investigation, read an Ontario publication called Farm and Country—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for St. John's East.