

the armed forces. Is the minister prepared to change that policy in view of the present emergency?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, our policy is to provide these services on a cost recovery basis.

Mr. Blenkarn: In view of the fact that the Armed Forces have their salaries paid in any event and already have the necessary equipment on hand, can the minister explain why municipalities must be charged for what is already paid for in the budget of the minister?

Mr. Richardson: Mr. Speaker, we do not charge for the salaries or for the use of the equipment. It is really the direct out-of-pocket costs that arise from assisting in any particular emergency.

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

EXAMINATION BY ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES OF BENEFIT CONTROL OFFICERS

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the allegation that innocent claimants have been disqualified from receiving unemployment insurance benefits by certain investigative techniques of benefit control officers, is the advisory committee looking into the conduct and techniques of these officers?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): As I previously indicated to the House, Mr. Speaker, the answer to that question is yes.

Mr. Rodriguez: How soon will the minister have a report for parliament from the advisory committee?

Mr. Andras: I am consulting regularly with the chairman of the advisory committee and he tells me they are proceeding as expeditiously as possible.

Mr. Rodriguez: Is the minister considering changing the regulations so that the innocent are not penalized along with those who take advantage of the system?

Mr. Andras: I would hope that the regulations are now such that the innocent are not penalized.

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[Translation]

COMMUNICATIONS

CABLEVISION—DISCUSSIONS WITH QUEBEC MINISTER RESPECTING JURISDICTION

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Communications.

The Quebec Minister of Communications stated recently that there had been no consultation between him and his federal counterpart concerning the publication of the

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green paper, and on February 23, the Quebec minister stated, and I quote:

—Quebec's jurisdiction over cablevision is a matter of fact, and not open to negotiations.

I should therefore like to ask the minister if he still intends to start further negotiations or if he is inclined to recognize Quebec's jurisdiction over cablevision?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, the statement by my counterpart in Quebec surprised me as much, I suppose, as it surprised the hon. member for Joliette, for the Quebec minister had himself not consulted the federal government before publishing a green paper, and since the green paper published by the federal government is precisely for use in consultation, discussions and negotiations, consultation should normally take place after, not before publication. No provinces were consulted about this publication, but all provinces, including Quebec, were informed of the publication of the green paper at the same time as members of the federal parliament.

Regarding the federal government's position concerning the claims of the Quebec Minister of Communications, I believe that the papers I have tabled in the House, that is to say my correspondence with the Quebec minister, should put the hon. member for Joliette clearly in the picture, if he takes the trouble to read them.

Mr. La Salle: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the hon. minister.

I should like to ask him if he intends to meet his Quebec counterpart to clarify the situation.

Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga): Mr. Speaker, once again the answer is clear and I have repeated it several times in this House: now that the green paper has been published I plan to meet the provincial ministers of communications.

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[English]

YOUTH

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—REQUEST THAT MEMBERS BE GIVEN MORE TIME TO STUDY APPLICATIONS BEFORE COMMENTING

Mr. Ellwood Madill (Peel-Dufferin-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State. In view of the fact that the members of this House this morning received the applications for the Opportunities for Youth program, with a reply required by April 9, can he extend the date so we can give them more informed study and make a better reply?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to look at this on an individual basis because I want to be as fair as possible. But generally I would like to resist delays because we are on target across the country, and in fact in parts of the country we are ahead of schedule. I think all members of the House agree that it is important to get the announcements out to the students themselves as soon as possible, but if there is