

ATOMIC ENERGY

BRITISH NEWFOUNDLAND CORPORATION PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP URANIUM ENRICHMENT PLANT—CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER AND MANITOBA PREMIER

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. It refers to the reply he gave yesterday to an inquiry by the hon. member for Annapolis Valley on the apparent interest of Brinco into developing an uranium enrichment plant. The Prime Minister replied that there had been some correspondence on this matter and he had referred it to the appropriate minister. Could the Prime Minister or the appropriate minister say whether they have received correspondence from the province of Manitoba indicating that province's interest in providing certain facilities for the development of such a plant?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker, there has been an exchange of letters between the Premier of Manitoba and myself along these lines.

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AGRICULTURE

FARM PRODUCTS MARKETING BILL—SUGGESTED MEETING WITH GROUP FROM WESTERN CANADA

Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the reply he gave on March 17 when he said he was prepared to meet a small, non-political, representative group of the agricultural industry concerned about Bill C-176, and in view of the difficulty the committee is now experiencing in dealing with that bill, is he still prepared to meet a group that is concerned about the bill?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I do not believe that the reply I made has been quoted completely in context, but I would prefer to hear Your Honour's decision on the question of privilege raised earlier by the hon. member before indicating whether anything further should be done on this side of the House.

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MANPOWER

AMENDMENT OF REGULATIONS TO EXTEND RETRAINING PERIOD

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Since under the present rigid regulations governing manpower retraining programs the disappointment and despair of trainees is reaching crisis proportions, would the minister inform the House when he will amend the regulations so that students may take more than 52 weeks to complete their academic training, which under this program has to be completed in less than 52 weeks, in order that trainees may receive training which best suits their needs?

Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I would not accept the extreme words of the hon. member. It is possible, of course, for a person to be offered 52 weeks of training and 52 weeks of skill training thereafter. Our emphasis has been on attempting to improve courses within that basic guideline. We are looking at the over-all question of whether we need additional flexibility to deal with special cases, but the emphasis certainly is on improving courses within that time limit.

Mr. Rynard: Ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

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WELFARE

CRITICISMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY NATIONAL COUNCIL CONCERNING PRACTICES—INQUIRY AS TO STATEMENT

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of certain criticisms and recommendations made by the National Council on Welfare with respect to welfare practices, both federal and provincial, will the minister be making a statement on this matter at an early date so that we can be assured that the recommendations of this body are being taken into consideration?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I examined the observations of the National Council on Welfare. Many of their recommendations are in process of being acted upon in one way or another through consultations which we will be having with the provinces concerning improvements in the Canada Assistance Plan.

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CITIZENSHIP

INQUIRY AS TO REORGANIZATION OF COURTS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the minister responsible for citizenship. Does the government intend to propose a substantial reorganization of the citizenship courts and, if so, will the minister assure the House that at the first opportunity a statement will be made as to the changes proposed?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, if any such changes are proposed they will be announced in the House.

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CONSUMER AFFAIRS

BELL CANADA DEPOSIT REQUIREMENT PRIOR TO PROVISION OF SERVICE—SUGGESTED LEGISLATION TO PROHIBIT PROCEDURE

Mr. Kenneth Robinson (Toronto-Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Consumer