

rate of unemployment would have gone down. In the past year, the Canadian economy has created 287,000 new jobs, which is an unprecedented achievement unequalled by any other democracy at this time.

● (1427)

[English]

INQUIRY WHETHER BUDGET WILL BE BROUGHT DOWN BEFORE  
EASTER

**Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo-Cambridge):** I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Finance. The minister stated in committee, and repeated here today, that he has ruled out a budget for March and indicated, and I quote, "May will be better for me because I will have more information". There is considerable information available at the moment from the Department of Regional Economic Expansion that unemployment will get worse in every region of Canada.

In light of that, and given the fact that the minister is reluctant to establish an all-party Commons committee, will he at least assure us that there will be a budget before an election is called? Otherwise there will be no way of coping with this problem for the next six or seven months.

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, October 20 last, a budget was actually brought down, and I want to point out to the hon. member that the incentives proposed by the government at that time came into force on January 1, 1978. So, it is only fair and reasonable to wait for those measures to take effect before proposing further measures. For instance, the Leader of the Opposition said today that the job creation program in the private sector through incentives to employers has only become effective this month. It would only be fair and reasonable to ascertain its results before proposing another program.

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#### OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

USE OF FRENCH IN BROADCASTING OF HOCKEY GAMES

**Mr. René Matte (Champlain):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State.

Since hockey is considered as our national sport by both Anglophones and Francophones and since all Canadians have the right to be served in their own language by the French and English CBC networks, could the minister tell the House why hockey games are not broadcast in French by the CBC in the Toronto and Vancouver areas?

[English]

**Hon. John Roberts (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, I will be happy to explore the matter. It may very well be that the rights of "Hockey Night in Canada" are not owned by the

#### Oral Questions

CBC but by an outside company, and they have in their contract accepted limitations on the way the program can be shown. Before giving the hon. member that answer definitively, I would like to check the matter and report back to him.

[Translation]

**Mr. Matte:** Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary, I should like to ask the minister whether he considers that cultural and linguistic rights have priority over the rights of some agency such as the MacLaren agency? And in order to help the minister give an accurate and adequate reply, I also ask him why are hockey games now broadcast in French and in English in Montreal, when Francophones in Toronto and Vancouver are denied the services provided in Montreal?

[English]

**Mr. Roberts:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. I believe we must give very strong priority to those rights. As I tried to indicate to the hon. member, there may be legal ramifications. That should be explored before I reply further to him.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

#### MANPOWER

REQUEST GRANTS UNDER YOUNG CANADA WORKS PROGRAM  
BE DOUBLED

**Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette):** Mr. Speaker, my question is also directed to the Minister of Employment and Immigration. In view of the statistics published this morning, which continue to cause great concern in the Canadian public, I would like to ask the minister if he has made representations to the President of the Treasury Board urging that grants for the Young Canada Works program be doubled if we seriously intend to meet the expectations and needs of thousands of Canadian students this summer?

[English]

**Hon. Bud Cullen (Minister of Employment and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, I have discussed the number of applications we have had under the Young Canada Works program. Once again, the program is successful. The ratio is about 3 to 1, which gives us excellent programs under the Young Canada Works operation. I want to look at the calibre of those that we might not be able to fund, to see if it would warrant making an application for further funding. One of the criticisms so often made of the Young Canada Works program is that we fund many projects that are not worth while or are a waste of taxpayers' money. I want to make sure we are making good use of the money before I make application to expand the program.

● (1432)

We are working in other areas, of course, and expect to supply some 60,000 jobs for young people this summer. We think this is a step in the right direction. The job experience