

*Oral Questions*

**Mr. MacEachen:** That particular proposal has already been considered, and in view of the situation in the market and the very large supplies of metals available, it does not appear to be a workable or appropriate proposal to adopt in these particular circumstances.

● (1432)

**Mr. Rodriguez:** Remember what happened with uranium.

**Mr. MacEachen:** The uranium situation, I suggest to the hon. member, was quite different from the one that prevails at the present time.

NICKEL MINES—PROPOSAL TO IMPOSE IMPORT TARIFF ON  
NICKEL TO PROTECT EMPLOYMENT

**Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, and I shall be specific once again. In view of the fact that it is now known that a portion of the metal used by the Canadian Mint to make nickel is purchased from Sherritt Gordon and that this nickel is refined by Sherritt Gordon from nickel purchased from overseas, and in view of the fact that there is at least a seven month stockpile of Canadian nickel available for such usage and that refusal to use this nickel is costing jobs in Canada, will the Deputy Prime Minister state, either yes or no, if he is now prepared to act by initiating a temporary import tariff on unrefined nickel into this country?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister):** Well, Mr. Speaker, I cannot understand exactly the way the hon. member brings together in his mind the two aspects of his question, but I will be happy to give more thought to this complex question and see whether his representations deserve further action.

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[Translation]

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

INQUIRY WHETHER UNITS WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO  
ABITIBI-TÉMISCAMINGUE REGION

**Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Treasury Board and it relates to the decentralization policy in the federal public service. Could the minister tell the House whether he considers moving administrative units in the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region and what are his projects for this region?

[English]

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, my colleague the Minister of Finance has announced all the planned decentralization moves presently being considered by the government. No further moves are being considered at this time.

[Mr. Rodriguez.]

[Translation]

NATIONAL FILM BOARD

REASON FOR FAILURE TO LOCATE OFFICE IN  
ABITIBI-TÉMISCAMINGUE REGION

**Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a supplementary to the Secretary of State. Considering that the National Film Board has established regional offices everywhere except in Abitibi-Témiscamingue, could the Secretary of State tell the House why this region has been forgotten and whether he intends to establish one of these offices in this region as he did in the rest of Quebec?

**Hon. John Roberts (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, I intend to meet the representatives of the National Film Board tomorrow and I shall draw the Chairman's attention to the hon. member's representations.

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[English]

MANPOWER

REQUEST FOR ACTION TO DEAL WITH HIGH LEVEL OF  
UNEMPLOYMENT IN CERTAIN AREAS

**Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East):** Mr. Speaker, now that we know who the government's "second string" is, I should like to direct a question to a distinguished member of that second string, the minister of unemployment and immigration. To use his words, Mr. Speaker, now that the people of northern Ontario in the Sudbury basin have received another kick in the guts, since we can now identify serious critically high pockets of high unemployment, specifically in the Sudbury basin and in the five eastern provinces where 50 per cent of the one million unemployed Canadians reside, what initiatives is the minister taking, given the responsibility he has, to address himself to these specific and identifiable pockets of unemployment?

**Hon. Bud Cullen (Minister of Employment and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, at the end of the question period I will rise on a point of order to indicate why I did not respond to the hon. member for York-Simcoe. Nor do I intend to respond to the hon. member for St. John's East.

**Mr. McGrath:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of some of the one million Canadians who are unemployed and apparently living too high off the hog, I should like to ask the minister of immigration whether he is prepared to tell the House, given the responsibility he has in regard to manpower and unemployment, that he is going to take special initiatives to co-ordinate activities within the government with respect to addressing himself to identifiable pockets of critically high unemployment, such as the Sudbury basin, the five eastern provinces, St. Lawrence, Newfoundland, Thompson, Manitoba and Stephenville, Newfoundland? We know where the critically high unemployment is; what is the minister doing about it?