FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

ONTARIO'S SECURITIES INDUSTRY LEGISLATION

Miss Aideen Nicholson (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Finance. It relates to her protesting the Ontario Government's decision last week to amend securities industry legislation. Is it the position of her Government that provinces should not exercise their powers while the free trade discussions take place?

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, it is the Government's position that this is a very important policy area and one in which we have taken a great leadership role in the co-ordination of policy between the federal Government and the provinces. We think that is very important to policy development in all of the areas dealing with financial sector legislation. We will continue to do that.

GOVERNMENT ACTION

Miss Aideen Nicholson (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, will the Minister tell the House whether her Government will take some much needed action on financial regulation instead of being continually overtaken by events?

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, I do not at all feel overtaken by events. I think we have taken a real leadership role. I might remind the Hon. Member that it is we who began the discussion of a very complex area over a year ago. There was broad-based public participation and the discussion in the House, in which the Hon. Member participated. I remind her that we are still waiting to hear from Mr. Justice Estey, that we have two Bills in the House, and that we are the ones who have shown the leadership.

[Translation]

EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT PLANNING STRATEGY

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Employment and Immigration. For some time now a number of Hon. Members have been complaining about the implementation of employment planning programs, particularly with respect to Quebec.

Can the Minister advise the House as to the extent of activities under these programs in the Province of Quebec?

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Last Friday in the House, Mr. Speaker, I tabled information on employment planning.

Oral Ouestions

I am pleased to mention that in the Province of Quebec we now have close to 6,000 projects involving 30,000 participants. Our expenditures amount to nearly \$200 million.

a (1440)

[English]

In Canada we have 53,000 projects under way, with more than 75,000 participants, and we will continue in that fashion.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

TRADE

IMPORTATION OF COAL FROM UNITED STATES

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver—Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister for International Trade (Mr. Kelleher), whose Government put a retaliatory tariff on books which does not seem to be doing Canada any good.

I want to ask him, given the fact that Canada imports 16 million tonnes of coal a year from the American heartland at a cost of \$1 billion a year, why does his Government not put a tariff on American coal and thereby open up eastern Canadian coal markets to western Canadian coal.

Hon. James Kelleher (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, I would advise the Hon. Member that in arriving at the list of goods against which we would retaliate under the GATT rules, we are only able to retaliate against goods that are not GATT-bound. I do not know whether or not coal is in fact GATT-bound, but I would be happy to look into that matter for him and get back to him.

Mr. Waddell: I hope the Minister will, because it would be of great benefit to British Columbia and Alberta if he could do this.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL TASK FORCE REPORT

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver—Kingsway): My supplementary question is directed to the Minister of State for Mines, if I can get his attention. Can the Minister advise when we will receive a copy of the report of the federal-provincial task force which was set up in January of 1985 to examine this very idea, the expanded use of Canadian coal in the Canadian market?

Hon. Bob Layton (Minister of State (Mines)): Mr. Speaker, I know there is a report being prepared and presented to the Government regarding the use of western coal. I am sure that as soon as it is published a copy will be sent directly to the Hon. Member.