

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

PROTESTS RESPECTING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ACT

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Has he received protests from Canadian union leaders against the amendments to the unemployment insurance legislation proposed by the government?

[English]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Not yet, Mr. Speaker.

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FISHERIES

BAN ON WHALING—CLOSING OF NOVA SCOTIA PLANT—
COMPENSATION TO OWNERS AND EMPLOYEES—
ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW INDUSTRY

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of the Environment. Since some 67 per cent of the production of the Blandford, Nova Scotia, whaling plant was sold for human consumption and the closing down of this industry places some one hundred shore employees plus ships' crews out of employment, is it the government's intention to establish a new industry in this area to take care of this unemployment, and will compensation be paid to the owners of the whaling plant and its employees?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, we are looking into measures of the nature of adjustment assistance to help the owners of the property and also to assist the employees to find alternative occupations.

REQUEST FOR COMPENSATION TO FISHERMEN BECAUSE
OF DECLINE IN TOTAL CATCH

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries. It is more a related than a supplementary question. In view of the 25 per cent decline in the total fish catch in the Atlantic provinces and in view of what appear to be very serious ice conditions this year which will further reduce the catch, what steps is the minister taking to compensate the fishermen who will suffer severe financial loss as a result of these two factors?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, I am happy to report that the total income of fishermen on the east coast is up appreciably; it is up by 10 per cent over that of last year.

Mr. McGrath: You will not get anywhere with that kind of flippant answer, Jack.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I believe the hon. member for Provencher has a supplementary to a previous question.

Oral Questions

MANPOWER

ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAM—REASONS FOR LACK
OF APPLICATIONS

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. The minister mentioned yesterday in the House, as well as today, that he was concerned that the department is not receiving an adequate number of applications for on-the-job training. Has the minister checked with officials in his department as to what might be some of the possible reasons for the lack of applications?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, we are having those discussions.

Mr. Epp: Would the minister please check whether or not officials from his department are asking businessmen and small businesses in rural areas questions which simply force these businessmen to opt out of the program because of the types of questions that are being asked?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sarnia-Lambton.

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TRANSPORT

REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE THAT USE OF PILOTS IN
OPEN WATERS ON GREAT LAKES WILL NOT BE
ELIMINATED

Mr. Jack Cullen (Sarnia-Lambton): Mr. Speaker, the act of rising today gives me more exercise than I have had in three weeks. I have a question for the Minister of Transport. As foreign vessels using the Great Lakes often carry cargoes which are potentially dangerous pollutants, in view of the danger of collisions or groundings will the minister assure the House and the country that the use of pilots in the open waters of the Great Lakes will not be eliminated?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, there is no question for the time being of eliminating the pilots.

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COMMUNICATIONS

BELL CANADA—REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF
PROMOTION BY COMPANY OF INSTALLATION OF
EXTENSION TELEPHONES

Mr. Terry Grier (Toronto-Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, I have a question to direct to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. As Bell Canada's November, 1972, campaign for the installation of additional telephone extensions free of charge will result in a number of exchanges being placed in more expensive monthly rate brackets, and as Bell customers were at no time advised that such action could result, has the minister considered undertaking an investigation under section 37 of the Com-