

INDUSTRY

CLOSING OF HAWKER SIDDELEY FORGE OPERATION AT TRENTON, N.S.—EFFECT ON RELATED INDUSTRIES IN AREA—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the ministers of industry, trade and commerce, DREE or national defence, all of whom have been given notice. Does the government intend to take any measures to scrutinize the decision of Hawker Siddeley of Canada Limited to close its large forging operation at Trenton, Nova Scotia, the largest such press in Canada, which by its nature has a good deal of effect on some regional industries?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I have not had notice of the question but I will be very pleased to look into it and report back to the hon. member.

Mr. MacKay: Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Perhaps he has had notice. I apologize to the Minister of Industry Trade and Commerce. I thought I had given him notice. Has the minister made any assessment of what effect the loss of this unique press and forge capability will have on other related industries in the area such as the Sydney steel plant and so on? If not, would he look into the situation and report to the House?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I will certainly do the latter. I have to advise the hon. member that it may well be that there is something on my desk that I did not see this morning, but like my colleague I did not get notice either.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Mississauga.

An hon. Member: Hear, hear!

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POST OFFICE

TIME TAKEN FOR SPECIAL DELIVERY LETTER MAILED IN REGINA TO REACH MISSISSAUGA—REQUEST FOR EXPLANATION

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Mississauga): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Postmaster General. I want to advise him before I proceed with my question, if I may, that Mississauga is the seventh most populous city in Canada and has direct air service to Regina.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Mississauga should follow the good example set by the hon. member for Peel South and ask a question.

Mr. Blenkarn: Mr. Speaker, as I said, my question is for the Postmaster General. Will he advise me and the House how long it should take a special delivery letter with a 40 cent stamp on it to go from Regina to Mississauga?

Oral Questions

[Translation]

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, we are building one of the most modern mail handling centres in the hon. member's constituency; as soon as this is done, I am sure the service will be excellent in that region.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We are running short of time and the hon. member for Mississauga has had both a statement and a question. The hon. member for Don Valley.

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ENERGY

PROPOSALS TO ALBERTA IN RELATION TO EXPORT TAX AND PRICE FREEZE—DATE OF DISCLOSURE

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs in his capacity as Acting Prime Minister. Has the government placed before the government of the province of Alberta a specific proposal to take effect at the end of the export tax and the price freeze on January 30?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, my colleague, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, explained the situation, that his deputy minister had visited the government of Alberta and had put before them a number of possible proposals, and that everything was on an *ad referendum* basis.

Mr. Gillies: When will the House be informed of the nature of these proposals?

Mr. Sharp: Soon.

APPLICATION OF ONTARIO HYDRO TO INCREASE EXPORT OF ELECTRICITY—DATE OF DECISION BY CABINET

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the recent application by Ontario Hydro to the National Energy Board for authority to increase exports of hydro power to the United States by more than one-third, I would ask the minister whether the recommendation of the National Energy Board on this application has been passed on to the cabinet for approval and, if so, when is the decision on this important matter to be handed down?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I would have to check and see whether the board has indeed rendered a decision. If it has, I have not seen it.

APPLICATION OF ONTARIO HYDRO TO INCREASE EXPORT OF ELECTRICITY—POSSIBLE UTILIZATION TO MEET CRISIS IN EASTERN CANADA

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is this hydro energy which is proposed for export surplus to Canadian needs