

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. members have heard the motion proposed by the hon. member for Battle River.

[Translation]

The House knows that such a motion cannot be put without unanimous consent. I therefore ask the House if there is unanimous consent.

[English]

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am sorry to advise the hon. member that there is no unanimity in favour of the submission of his motion. Therefore it cannot be put at this time.

**Mr. Downey:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, may I impress upon hon. members that it would be much easier to facilitate an investigation by this means than by going through the ordinary process of questioning in the House.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member knows that that is not a point of order. It may be an argument in support of his motion, but it is not a point of order.

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[Translation]

**CUSTOMS TARIFF****CONTINUATION OF MEN'S AND BOYS' SHIRTS SURTAX ORDER**

On the order: Government notices of motions:

November 10, 1970—*The Minister of Finance*:—That this House, pursuant to subsection (1c) of section 7 of the *Customs Tariff*, do approve that the *Men's and Boys' Shirts Surtax Order*, being Order in Council P.C. 1970-959 of 2 June 1970 made under subsection (1a) of section 7 of the said Act, continue to have force and effect until the 29th day of November, 1971.

**Mr. Speaker:** Pursuant to section 2 of Standing Order 21 this government notice of motion stands transferred to and ordered for consideration under government orders at the next sitting of the House.

**ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**

[English]

**LABOUR CONDITIONS****UNEMPLOYMENT—BREAKDOWN OF PERIOD OF TIME IN DBS MONTHLY REPORT**

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce who I believe reports to the House on behalf of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Why is it that for the second month in a row the monthly report of DBS on employment and unemployment has omitted any breakdown of the period of time of unemployment?

[Mr. Downey.]

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, my understanding is that the document published today—the press release—gives only part of the total picture. The procedure is that in a very few days another document—the main publication called “The Labour Force”—will come out giving further information, including data on duration of unemployment.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Then am I to understand that the minister is giving the assurance that this information will be forthcoming from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and circulated in the same manner within a matter of days?

**Mr. Pepin:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member who asked that question last month, the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings, made the same point. On the following day I sent him a note of explanation and he seemed to be satisfied. The new system has been in operation since August.

**Mr. Stanfield:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I asked the question a month ago and I received no information from the minister.

**Mr. Pepin:** Then I can only apologize to the hon. member. I'll correct myself immediately.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** Is the Leader of the Opposition rising on a further supplementary?

**Mr. Stanfield:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**INTERIM CHANGES IN UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** I should like to ask the Minister of Labour whether the government has decided to make any interim changes or arrangements in regard to unemployment insurance, for example, in the length of time required to qualify or in the benefits payable, to come into operation some time during the winter, as opposed to the more definitive proposals that are included in his white paper?

**Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, may I assure the House that if the government had come to such a decision I would have announced it by now or perhaps held the announcement for the debate later this day. However, it is not my intention at the moment to recommend an increase in benefits this winter. What I am hoping is that we can accelerate the already rapid pace at which we are converting the white paper's proposals into proposed legislation. Above all else it is more important that we create jobs.

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**MANPOWER****SPECIAL PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE TRAINING INCENTIVES**

**Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Manpower and Immigration whether any special manpower programs are