

Inquiries of the Ministry

minister consider extending this program so that other communities, smaller communities holding class C fairs, for instance, may be able to take advantage of the loan program?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The minister might reply briefly, if he wishes, but I would suggest to the hon. member that this is a question which should normally be placed on the order paper. I am not aware that such fairs take place at this time of year. If there is no immediate urgency, I would think the question ought to be placed on the order paper. If there is urgency, it can be considered at the time of adjournment.

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SUPPLY AND SERVICES**PURCHASE OF MINI-SUBMARINE BY GOVERNMENT—
REPAYMENT OF MONEY ADVANCED BY RUSSIA**

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): My question is addressed to the Minister of Supply and Services, Mr. Speaker. It relates to an announcement made yesterday at a press conference by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Trade and Commerce that the government of Canada was prepared to buy a mini-submarine being constructed in British Columbia. Can the minister now tell us when an offer is to be made to the company concerned and what is to happen with respect to the 30 per cent of the \$2 million price paid to the company by the U.S.S.R.?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of Supply and Services): The government has agreed to purchase the submarine. I will make inquiries as to the details of the repayment to the U.S.S.R.

Mr. Forrestall: Can the minister tell us whether action to lift the sales permit was taken only in light of the fact that it was being sold to Russia? Were any other countries involved? Can the minister also tell us which department will be using this mini-submarine?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The second part of the question should be placed on the order paper. The minister might reply briefly to the first part. We are just about out of time. The hon. member for Gander-Twillingate. Is the hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East rising on a point of order?

Mr. Forrestall: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I hesitate to bring to Your Honour's attention the fact that the minister was in the process of rising to respond to the first part of the question.

Mr. Speaker: I did not notice the minister rising. If he wishes to reply to the first part of the question, the answer should be given quickly.

Mr. Richardson: Mr. Speaker, you ruled part of the question out of order and I do not know what the first part of the question was.

Mr. Forrestall: When will the offer be made to purchase the submarine? As of this morning it had not been made to the company involved.

[Mr. Foster.]

Mr. Richardson: The initial payment has already been made to the company. The date of the final payment has not yet been determined.

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FISHERIES**INQUIRY AS TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN CANADA AND
DENMARK RESPECTING RESOURCES OFF ATLANTIC
COAST**

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether an agreement has been reached between Canada and Denmark regarding the fisheries resources off the Atlantic coast, and would he be prepared to table the text of the agreement or the diplomatic notes exchanged in arriving at such an agreement?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I shall have to make inquiries. There have been negotiations. I am not absolutely sure of their present stage but I will obtain an answer.

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INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Arnold Peters (Temiskaming): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister a question. Has the right hon. gentleman any news to give to the country as to the anticipated date of his application for benefits under the Family Allowances Act?

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[Translation]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**EXEMPTION BY QUEBEC OF PROVINCIAL CIVIL
SERVANTS—POSITION OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, yesterday, in the absence of the Minister of Labour, I asked his parliamentary secretary if he was in a position to say whether the Quebec government had taken a decision about the contributions of some categories of employees of that province to the unemployment insurance fund. The parliamentary secretary replied that the minister could answer today. Would the minister now be ready to make this effort?

[English]

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Here we face the same difficulty as we did with respect to a previous question. I am hoping that at the end of the question period I may be permitted to revert to motions and deal with the question asked by the hon. member for Joliette and the question which has just been raised.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We have, in fact, reached the end of the question period. I apologize to hon. members, including some hon. members on the front bench to my left, who have not had an opportunity to put their