

Oral Questions

inces, within the next ten days I shall be meeting with all the ministers of industry of the various provinces of Canada to discuss, among other things, this question.

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): The minister has told us there would not be one over-all blueprint but a series of blueprints. Will he be making a statement in the near future with respect to some of the specific proposals in terms of goals or bench marks in order that Canadian public opinion may have some means of measuring the success of these various policies?

Mr. Gillespie: I am not sure we shall be able to satisfy the hon. member with respect to the question of bench marks, but I hope to satisfy him and other hon. members with a plan which will clearly identify those industries that require a strategy for themselves. I have mentioned one. There is another at the present time—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS**OSOYOOS BAND—REQUEST THAT MINISTER REPLY TO LETTER CONCERNING APPEAL AGAINST ELECTIONS**

Mr. G. H. Whittaker (Okanagan Boundary): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. An urgent appeal has been made to me by members of the Osoyoos Indian Band, British Columbia. I would ask the minister when he intends to answer the letter of December 21, 1972, in connection with the appeal lodged against the elections of December 14, 1972, the situation being that all band matters have been completely at a standstill since January 24, 1973?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am not sure whether it is in order simply to ask a minister when he intends to reply to a letter. In any event, the minister may reply briefly.

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): I will have to check once more. I believe an inquiry is going on at the moment and that the matter is in the hands of the judge. But I will check further and inform the hon. member.

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MANPOWER**ALLEGED ADVICE TO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPLICANTS TO APPLY FOR JOBS DIRECTLY**

Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Having regard to the policy followed by his department under which officials of the unemployment insurance claimants' assistance program work in close co-operation with Manpower in finding job placements for the unemployed, can the minister explain why applicants for unemployment insurance benefits in my constituency are being advised by unemployment insurance officials to apply for jobs directly to employers rather than through the Manpower office, and why Manpower is not consulted by U.I.C. in order to co-ordinate job placement opportunities?

[Mr. Gillespie.]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): I should like to see the specific details so that I can determine whether there is any irregularity, but the general practice is that in addition to being registered with Manpower claimants should also exercise their own initiative in seeking jobs and look anywhere they can.

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[Translation]

COMMUNICATIONS**BELL CANADA RATE INCREASES—INQUIRY RESPECTING TRANSPORT COMMISSION DECISION**

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Communications.

Could he tell the House whether the Canadian Transport Commission must ask his advice or inform him before taking a decision?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): The answer to that question is no, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Allard: Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member's question is out of order and the minister answered too quickly. I point out to the hon. member that such a question is out of order. If he has another question to ask, I will recognize him for that purpose. He could perhaps try to ask an acceptable question.

Mr. Allard: Mr. Speaker, I had a supplementary question to ask the minister if he answered my first question. Indeed, what are we doing here? It is useless to discuss the rates if we are before an accomplished fact.

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[English]

NATIONAL DEFENCE**CONGRATULATIONS ON 125th ANNIVERSARY OF 8th CANADIAN HUSSARS**

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence, of which I have given him notice. Does the minister agree that the 125th anniversary today of the 8th Canadian Hussars (Princess Louise's), the original New Brunswick regiment and the oldest serving unit in the Canadian Armed Forces, is worthy of note now or, if the Speaker so rules, at the time of adjournment?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to say to the hon. member for Fundy-Royal that I am aware that today is the 125th anniversary of this oldest serving Canadian regiment. I would be pleased to join him in expressing congratulations and best wishes to this famous Canadian regiment.