

as yet. I do not know why the hon. member says that all Canadians know we are into a major commitment.

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LOTO CANADA

CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT WITH GENERAL INSTRUMENTS

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport) relating to the ill-fated Loto Select program.

This morning I attempted to get, through the minister's office and through Loto Canada, copies of the government's \$23 million contract with General Instruments, but I was refused. Can the minister at least tell the House today whether contained in that contract there is a clause which provides for the breaking of the contract or the cancellation of the contract with General Instruments? If so, what is the nature of that clause?

Hon. Iona Campagnolo (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)): Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman could not have been in the House when I answered a similar question asked by the hon. member for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton.

There are provisions in the contract which would prohibit its circulation or tabling in the House at this time. However, once the contract is cancelled, I have given my undertaking to consider tabling it along with the dispensation documents.

Mr. Beatty: Mr. Speaker, I will ask the minister one very straightforward question. Can the minister tell the House, yes or no, whether contained within that contract there is a cancellation clause which would allow the government to escape from its commitments?

Mrs. Campagnolo: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman is a lawyer, and I am not.

An hon. Member: No, he isn't.

Mrs. Campagnolo: However, in the contract there is a confidentiality clause which precludes me from answering his question.

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CANADA LABOUR CODE

PROTECTION AGAINST UNSAFE WORKING CONDITIONS

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Labour. In view of the passage, several months ago of Bill C-8 which provides under part IV of the Canada Labour Code the right of workers to refuse to work in unsafe working conditions, and for the establishment of safety committees, and in view of continuing uncertainty as to whether this legislation applies to uranium mine workers—who have experienced special problems in this regard in the

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past—what action is being taken to clarify this matter so that we might see that workers are covered by the safety and health provisions of Bill C-8?

Hon. Martin O'Connell (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I have been giving attention to the serious matter raised by the hon. member for Algoma. Just a week or so ago, my department received a legal opinion from the Department of Justice to the effect that part IV of the Canada Labour Code does, contrary to former belief, apply to health and safety matters in uranium mines. I have, therefore, asked my department to notify unions and companies in the industry to this effect, and I will be meeting with people in the industry to plan an orderly rearrangement of responsibilities.

The protection provided in Bill C-8 which we passed last session has not, thus far, been afforded to uranium miners because the licences issued by the Atomic Energy Control Board require companies to comply with provincial law. As a result of the legal opinion to which I referred, it is now clear that the federal law applies, and we will be making efforts toward a rearrangement of responsibilities.

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● (1442)

ENERGY

KITIMAT OIL PIPELINE PROPOSAL

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources: it concerns the report in yesterday's *Globe and Mail* that the Kitimat proposal is being actively revived by that consortium. Previously, the minister has been somewhat ambiguous on the matter, but the Minister of State for the Environment was very clear that this government was completely opposed to the Kitimat oil proposal on environmental grounds.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Leggatt: My question to the minister is, can he confirm that it is still this government's position that the Kitimat oil proposal is dead and will not proceed?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member will recall that at my request the National Energy Board addressed itself to the question of whether or not a western port of entry would be essential or needed to support Canada's objective of self-reliance. The National Energy Board has since reported to me and it is quite clear that such a port of entry is not essential to Canada's objective of self-reliance.

Mr. Leggatt: The minister has not answered the question, because the National Energy Board did not state, in relation to U.S. needs, whether the port would be a viable one in supplying the United States; so he is clearly skirting the question.