

Inquiries of the Ministry

eration both by the National Advisory Council on Manpower and Immigration and by the committee of deputy ministers. The change proposed is of great significance and we are not sure at the moment that we have all the facts in order to make a proper judgment.

Mr. H. Russell MacEwan (Central Nova): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Does the minister consider that a 10 per cent unemployment rate in the Atlantic provinces constitutes an improvement over last year when the rate was 10.1 per cent?

An hon. Member: Try to adjust that one.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, there is—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair has recognized the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar.

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary question about this pattern of dropping unemployment. Since the unemployment rate in Saskatchewan has "dropped" to the highest level in ten years, will the minister tell us what programs will be undertaken in that province?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I must once again remind hon. members that it is obviously against the practice of the House and against the rules, citations, Standing Orders and other authorities to discuss during the question period as extensively as we are doing now a subject which will be considered later today. I remind hon. members that perhaps these questions might be asked tomorrow, but at present we have before us an order, of which hon. members have notice, which will permit some hon. members to submit their representations. I hope that we shall give those other hon. members who have other important matters to raise an opportunity to do so. Again, I understand the importance of the matter and do not want to cut off hon. members who have questions to ask about this situation. I ask the cooperation of all hon. members so that we may go to another subject as soon as possible.

EXPEDITING OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
POLICIES UNDER STUDY

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a related question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Notwithstanding what his colleague, the

[Mr. MacEachen.]

Minister of Manpower and Immigration, had to say about this matter and in view of the very alarming growth of unemployment in certain pockets in the regionally disadvantaged areas of the country—I am thinking here of the Atlantic provinces and of Quebec especially—is the minister prepared to expedite some of the regional development policies currently under study?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I shall reply to the hon. member that under the new program the loans granted to industry are about four times what they were last year, and the amount increased from \$200 million to about \$530 million. The same applies to the number of jobs created and I think this program of industrial incentives is meeting the objectives we had set. Next year there will probably be a much greater increase.

[English]

Mr. McGrath: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister prepared to cope with the very serious pockets of unemployment in certain regions of the country, including his own province, Quebec, the Atlantic provinces and western Canada, in a special way?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, this is exactly what we are doing now.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Heaven help us.

Mr. Trudeau: You people don't know what is going on.

[Translation]

TRADE

EFFECT OF ENTRY OF GREAT BRITAIN INTO
COMMON MARKET ON CANADIAN
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Mr. Bernard Dumont (Frontenac): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.

After the introduction of a white paper in the British House of Commons, would the Prime Minister tell us what the Canadian government intends to do with regard to farm product exports, which will likely stop, and what proposals it intends to make to Great Britain or the Common Market in order that such exports continue?