

Inquiries of the Ministry

delegation as it wishes. As far as the federal government is concerned, it does not intend to invite observers. There will be no federal observers at the conference, but some provincial delegations may include members of the opposition. I doubt it very much, but we are not in a position to ascertain the composition of delegations formed by the premiers themselves.

With respect to the third question, Mr. Speaker, the answer is the same as the one I gave to the Leader of the Opposition. The order of the day has not been made public.

[Later:]

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Prime Minister.

Following up on the answer he gave me a while ago, the representation at the federal-provincial conference is left to the discretion of the provinces—that is understood—but hon. members do not represent one province in particular, but in effect, I believe, Canada as a whole. The government will be represented but with a view to safeguarding national unity and establishing better understanding between hon. members and the people of Canada, would it not be wise to invite the members of the opposition to attend this conference as observers only, so that all will be aware of what is going on there?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I think it would be only fair to say that the leader of the Ralliement créditiste has always been a strong advocate of national unity.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Trudeau: But the fact remains that under the system by which government operates, it is its role to voice the executive's position and this is what we intend to do at that conference. For the time being, we do not feel any need for the valuable services of the hon. member.

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.

I wish to thank the Prime Minister for his kind words, but the government is in office and can speak out. As far as I am concerned, I do not ask permission to take the floor at that conference. But the Prime Minister speaks so well that we would like to be there to hear him.

[Mr. Trudeau.]

[English]

LABOUR CONDITIONS**INQUIRY AS TO SUMMER EMPLOYMENT FOR STUDENTS**

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the consistent reports that thousands of high school and university students are unable to find summer employment, can the minister inform the house whether his department has taken or is developing some special emergency programs to deal with the situation at this time?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I have described to the house and in committee the steps the department has already taken. We do not have any new steps under consideration at the present time that will be in effect this summer.

Mr. Lewis: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact the minister's statements to the house have been in reply to questions, although I appreciate he made a fuller statement to the committee, will he undertake to make a full statement to the house as to the program that is in process to assist students looking for summer employment?

Mr. MacEachen: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will be happy to consider that.

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Manpower and Immigration whether the advisory committees planned for his department have been established, and whether one of these committees is to be given responsibility with respect to advising his department on the subject of summer employment and student employment generally?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the Manpower and Immigration Advisory Council and the four subsidiary boards were named last week. It is hoped to have the first meeting on June 25, and at that time it will be possible to lay before the council quite a number of issues on which advice would be very helpful.

Mr. Stanfield: As a further supplementary, Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister whether he would consider making certain that the appropriate subcommittee is in being and at