Inquiries of the Ministry

winter a level of at least 13 per cent, would he say whether a special program will be developed to keep unemployment in Quebec from reaching such a disastrous level?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, no special program has been provided for any province in particular, but as the hon. member knows the budget of December 1970, that of June and the legislation now on the order paper will provide more advantageous measures for the province of Quebec because unemployment is higher there than in other provinces where advantages are lower because unemployment is lower.

Mr. Ricard: Should we understand from this, Mr. Speaker, that this government finds acceptable a 13 per cent unemployment rate in the province of Quebec—

[English]

[Mr. Ricard.]

NATIONAL DEFENCE

RESULTS OF STUDIES RESPECTING DISPOSAL OF MEAFORD TANK RANGE

Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct this question to the Minister of National Defence. Will the minister tell the House the results of government studies respecting the disposal of the Meaford tank range?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, the matter is still under consideration.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PROPOSED AMCHITKA NUCLEAR TEST VIS-À-VIS VISIT OF EMPEROR HIROHITO OF JAPAN TO ALASKA

Mr. David Anderson (Esquimalt-Saanich): I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. As a North Pacific nation interested in continued good relations between other North Pacific powers and in light of understandable Japanese sensitivity on the subject, has Canada informed the United States government of Canadian concern over the inevitable adverse political and diplomatic results of exploding the world's largest underground nuclear test within a week of and in the same state of the union as Emperor Hirohito of Japan will visit on the first ever visit of a head of state of Japan to North America?

GRAIN

SUGGESTED VISIT OF RUSSIAN PREMIER TO CHURCHILL TO OBSERVE SHIPPING ADVANTAGES OF PORT

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister in connection with the announced visit to Canada later this year of Mr. Kosygin of the U.S.S.R. Can the Prime Minister tell us whether Mr. Kosygin will be invited to visit Canada's most northerly mainland seaport, Churchill, so that he will be able to observe at first hand the advantages to his country of taking grain shipments through that port?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I am sure Premier Kosygin will be interested in the suggestion of the hon. member. Actually the program of the visit is being worked out between the two governments at this time

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

ALLEGED VIOLATION OF RIGHTS OF PERSONS ACCUSED OF DEATH OF PIERRE LAPORTE—REQUEST FOR INQUIRY BY COMMISSION

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): I have a question for the Solicitor General regarding allegations that certain basic and legal rights of those accused of the death of Pierre Laporte are being violated by Quebec prison officials. Has the minister received these allegations? If he has, because of the irreparable harm such allegations will do to the Canadian legal system will the minister appoint a commission to investigate their truthfulness?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member is talking about those prisoners who were transferred from one penitentiary to another, I can assure him that all their rights are protected, although some of their privileges have been suspended. At any rate, their right to meet with their lawyers was never suspended; it is still theirs, and always will be.

[English]

ALLEGED INFILTRATION BY UNDERWORLD INTO GOVERNMENT

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): I have a supplementary question for the Solicitor General. In light of the report of a committee of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police that organized crime has infiltrated government in Canada, is the government considering calling a meeting of the Attorneys General of the provinces to deal with this serious question?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, the Association has made some remarks of a general nature, but I would like to be given more concrete facts in order that I may consider the approach we could take.

[English]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Since in the next few days the Prime Minister will visit Liberal party associations in Pickering, Port Hope and Oshawa and will be travelling at public expense in a government aircraft, would he consider dropping into my place for dinner on