

Mr. Stanfield: A supplementary question. I am not writing off the usefulness of the proposed meeting because it might be a suitable time to discuss appropriate programs for next summer. I should like to ask the Prime Minister what he hopes to achieve from this meeting in December with regard to jobs for this winter?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I have a transcript of the remarks of the Leader of the Opposition. He said and I quote his words—

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am wondering whether the Prime Minister is rising on a point of order or a question of privilege. I was prepared to recognize the hon. member for Charlevoix on a supplementary question. The hon. member for Charlevoix.

Mr. Stanfield: A supplementary question. I am sure the Prime Minister is anxious to answer the question I asked about what he hopes to achieve from this meeting with regard to jobs this winter.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair has already recognized the hon. member for Charlevoix. Perhaps the Prime Minister might reply to both questions at the same time.

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• (2:50 p.m.)

[Translation]

INDUSTRY

TROIS-RIVIÈRES—MEASURES TO AVOID LAY-OFF OF EMPLOYEES BY DOMTAR

Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce a question similar to that asked by the Leader of the Opposition.

Since the Domtar Co. in Trois-Rivières intends to dismiss 650 employees as a result of the unpegging of the Canadian dollar, is the government ready to grant a subsidy to enable the Domtar newsprint plant to continue its operation and to prevent layoffs? If so, what kind of assistance is the government ready to grant?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance has already announced in his budget speech various measures, some of which are of a general nature and others more especially concerned with the said industry.

The House is now considering Bill C-262, which is also likely to help. The province of Quebec has already announced reductions on wood cutting fees, which will also help. We are considering other alternatives. A number of ministers and representatives of this industry have scheduled an early meeting.

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

Mr. Speaker: I regret to interrupt the hon. member for Charlevoix (Mr. Asselin), but I am under the impression that the question that he asked was not exactly supplementary

Inquiries of the Ministry

mentary to that of the Leader of the Opposition. I think that the latter himself would like to put a supplementary question. I shall recognize the hon. member for Charlevoix (Mr. Asselin) in a moment.

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[English]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

UNEMPLOYMENT—STUDY OF LATEST FIGURES—ACTION TO CREATE JOBS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, may I return to my question and ask the Prime Minister what he hopes to achieve from the December meeting with the provinces regarding jobs this winter?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South.

Mr. Stanfield: A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Is the Leader of the Opposition rising on a point of order?

Mr. Stanfield: No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I appreciate that he has asked the question twice and has received no answer. As he knows, that is the privilege of the minister being questioned.

Mr. Stanfield: I am not rising on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I do not want to trespass on your good nature, but it is usual to give the Leader of the Opposition the opportunity to ask a couple of supplementary questions and I trust I shall have that opportunity.

Mr. Speaker: The Leader of the Opposition never trespasses on my good nature; that is why I recognized him again. What I am suggesting to him is that he has asked the same supplementary twice. He has the right to ask a supplementary, but no answer having been given to his supplementary question I have no alternative, unless he has a different supplementary question, but to go to another questioner.

An hon. Member: Make it a good one this time.

Mr. Stanfield: I hope hon. members on that side will not get too excited. I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether the study that the Prime Minister indicated nearly two weeks ago he would be making following the release of the latest figures on unemployment by Statistics Canada has been completed, and when may we expect the job-creating action that the Prime Minister indicated?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition will recall that I mentioned a study and analysis in relation to the rate of participation of young people in the labour force. I must say that I regret that the Leader of the Opposition said I was dishonest in talking about this. He should understand that the participation rate of young people in the labour force is not the same thing as the rate of entry of young people into the labour force. It is the participation rate of those who are of labour force age that I was studying. Here