

*Oral Questions**[English]*

Mr. John McDermid (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I find it very interesting that on the one hand the NDP ask for a floor price so that the oil companies can survive, and on the other hand they are asking to lower prices more and more and more. Moneys that come to the companies go into exploration, and if we can keep exploration going in this country from these moneys that they are keeping, then it is all the better for jobs in Canada out west where we need them in the energy industries.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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PUBLIC SERVICE**REGIONAL PAY SCALES**

Mr. George Baker (Gander—Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, the principle of equal pay for equal work has been violated by this Government in negotiations with the PSAC in that unequal pay for exactly the same work has been forced on the general trades and labour, and Newfoundland and most of the Maritimes are at the bottom of the heap. My question is directed to the President of the Treasury Board. Does not the President of the Treasury Board feel that the Government is guilty of promoting discrimination and "how can this be justified?"

Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I would like to answer the preamble to my honourable colleague's question. Nothing has been forced on anyone. This is a matter, as I am sure my honourable colleague knows, that is subject to negotiation. I will say that about one-fifth of federal Public Servants are paid on some form of regional pay basis where we attempt to compare the pay rates in the federal Public Service with the pay rates available for similar trades in the different regions. That has been a practice that has been longstanding, as he should know from his side of the House, and it is a practice that is equitable and fair and respects the regional pay practices of the different regions of the country.

GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. George Baker (Gander—Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, the charge discrimination and the question "how can this be justified?" is from the Minister of Justice in a letter to the President of the Treasury Board two weeks ago on this same issue.

Some Hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. Baker: I agree with the Minister of Justice. How can the Government justify what the Minister of Justice says is unjust?

Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, in open negotiations with the PSAC I am very happy to say that we were able to reach an agreement to reduce the regional zones from 22 to 16, and that was accepted by the negotiators at the table, and furthermore ratified by the general membership. Subsequent to the ratification the question was raised by labour as to whether or not we would entertain further reductions during the term of the present contract. I have maintained my open door policy and I am willing to discuss it with them. They have been invited to meet with me. I can only tell you that in terms of our record in labour management relations we have no lessons to learn from the Opposition.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**BRAINWASHING EXPERIMENTS FUNDED BY CIA—REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION OF REPORT**

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. Will the Government make public the report of special counsel George Cooper's investigation into whether Canada was involved, or for that matter was aware of CIA funded brainwashing experiments conducted on nine Canadian citizens?

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): The report which I commissioned on this issue, which had been ignored by the previous Government, was received about three weeks ago. I am studying the matter with some of my colleagues. We have to consider not only what is in the best interests of the people of Canada and what the Government should do, but what is in the best interests of the plaintiffs in this matter in the States as well. When we are finished with our consideration we will be in touch with the representatives of the plaintiffs to discuss the situation with them and we will announce our decision. This is an open Government unafraid to look at the record and to bring it forth to the people of Canada to see.

REQUEST THAT REPORT BE FURNISHED TO VICTIMS OF EXPERIMENTS

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Justice whether, in the circumstances, after he has completed his investigation he would make available to the lawyer representing those nine people a copy of that report in order that he can determine what would be in the best interests of those nine clients of his in this very important matter that should be resolved now?

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): I certainly accept this as a representation, and I can also assure the Hon. Member that if it is our