

munity. If and when such a request is received, we will act upon it promptly.

* * *

FINANCE

BANK OF CANADA POLICY RESPECTING MONEY SUPPLY

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo): My question is for the Minister of Finance. Can the minister inform the House whether it is his view that the standpat policy of the Bank of Canada since the beginning of the year with regard to the money supply is consistent with the stated expansionary policy of the government? If the minister does not agree with the Bank of Canada, can he indicate what action he intends to take in this regard?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The first part of the hon. member's question is very theoretical. The minister is being asked to express an opinion as to the policy or non-policy of the Bank of Canada. That part of the question is certainly not in order. With regard to the second part of the question, if we stretch things a bit it might be considered to be in order and the minister might want to reply.

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the policy of the Bank of Canada is a steadily expanding monetary supply, with which I agree.

Mr. Saltsman: In view of the minister's agreement, may I ask whether his purpose in supporting that policy is to maintain higher levels of interest rates in Canada than in the United States?

Mr. Benson: No, Mr. Speaker. This policy means lower interest rates in Canada.

* * *

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

USE OF MANPOWER OFFICERS TO DEAL WITH CLAIMS IN LOCATIONS WHERE COMMISSION STAFF WITHDRAWN

Mr. Mac T. McCutcheon (Lambton-Kent): I have a question for the Minister of Labour. I apologize for not having given prior notice. Has the minister given consideration to arranging for manpower officers to be given the responsibility for dealing with unemployment insurance claims in locations where they operate and where UIC staff have been withdrawn? I understand that many of these people would welcome duties of this nature as many of their specific responsibilities—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is now making a speech. Perhaps the minister might reply to the first part of the address.

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, even without advance notice I appreciate the question. What the hon. member really wants to know is what we can do to provide better service to the unemployed. Last

Inquiries of the Ministry

week we opened four new claims service offices in the Vancouver area. After the question period I will be pleased to discuss the particular problems of the area the hon. member represents to see if we can improve the service there.

Mr. McCutcheon: Mr. Speaker, I shall endeavour not to make a speech. I wish to direct my supplementary question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Will the minister agree to some such measure, even on a temporary basis, in order to help avoid the hardship caused by applicants having to travel great distances to UIC offices?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Manpower and Immigration and the Minister of Labour find it very easy to co-operate. I am sure we will do everything that is reasonable after the conversation to which the Minister of Labour just referred.

* * *

CITIZENSHIP

HIRING OF ALEXIA ALEXANDROVICH BANDA BY BRANCH

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I have been asked by the Minister without Portfolio who responds for Information Canada to reply to a question directed to him on February 17 by the hon. member for Edmonton Centre. In the absence of the Minister without Portfolio the hon. member asked "under whose recommendation Alexia Alexandrovich Banda was hired for the Citizenship Branch under Information Canada in the Vancouver area."

I have been asked by my colleague, who is in Toronto on government business, to tender his response to this question. The Citizenship Branch which, incidentally, has never been under Information Canada, never hired Alexia Alexandrovich Banda. On Friday the hon. member for Edmonton Centre referred to one Alex Bandy, whose full name I understand is Sandor Emerich Bandy. Alex Bandy, a Canadian citizen, was hired on a casual term basis by the Citizenship Branch on January 15, 1971, for a period ending March 31, 1971. He was hired by the Vancouver field officer for research and documentation.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Spadina.

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): A supplementary, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: I have to interrupt the hon. member for Spadina who, as always, has been very patient. The hon. member for Edmonton Centre has a supplementary.

Mr. Paproski: Was a security check made on this gentleman?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): I am advised by my colleague that no security clearance is required for casual term employees under these circumstances by the Citizenship Branch.