

Oral Questions

Mr. Andre: That is precisely the type of research jobs, the generic companies are interested in—

Mr. Broadbent: You are the master of the half truth, Harvie.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): There is nothing too low for you, is there, Ed?

Mr. Andre:—getting into manufacturing. They asked for a window of opportunity so they could get into the manufacturing. We provided a three-year window of opportunity at the direct request of the generic companies.

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[Translation]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

FORGET COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montréal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Employment and Immigration. The Minister has acknowledged receipt of the report of the Forget Commission and he is certainly aware that the Commission has recommended, first, the creation of a Crown Corporation similar to the Canada Post Corporation or Petro-Canada to administer the Unemployment Insurance Plan, and second, the lay-off of 3,000 public servants.

Can the Minister tell us whether the Conservative Government intends to abandon its social responsibilities towards Canadians by accepting such a recommendation?

Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I said yesterday to the representative of the New Democratic Party that it would be unwise to comment on the Forget report before it is tabled in the House. That will occur tomorrow afternoon and we shall then be able to comment on the report.

● (1500)

[English]

PROPOSAL TO CREATE CROWN CORPORATION

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, surely the Prime Minister or the Minister responsible can tell the House that he rejects the creation of an arm's-length Crown corporation to deliver unemployment insurance. The Government has one fundamental role. Will it now begin giving up medicare and creating Crown corporations for unemployment insurance? Will the Minister give us at least that guarantee *vis-à-vis* the Forget Commission?

Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the Minister says that he will answer tomorrow afternoon.

[Translation]

AGRICULTURE

MARKETING OF INCUBATED EGGS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture.

Since 1981, producers of incubated eggs have been asking for a national marketing board.

Could the Minister give the House a progress report, to ensure that the final stages of this project reflect the demands of the producers?

[English]

Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the question of the Hon. Member for Drummond. I am sure he was pleased when I indicated that later today we will be releasing the information. We have been working with the broiler hatching egg association for quite some period of time. We have cleared all stages and will be in a position to announce the formation of a national agency for that commodity. This is another example of the Government keeping its commitments.

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INVESTMENT CANADA

GLC PUBLISHING COMPANY—ACQUISITION BY GULF & WESTERN

Ms. Lynn McDonald (Broadview—Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister responsible for Investment Canada. He will know how concerned Canadians were by the abandonment of the Canadianization policy for book publication through the decision on the takeover by Gulf & Western of Prentice-Hall. Will we be seeing a replay of that decision, or is the Minister prepared to tell us that in the case of GLC, another direct acquisition by Gulf & Western, the Minister is prepared to stand behind the Canadianization policy and tell us that he will not accept a takeover by Gulf & Western of another Canadian publishing company?

[Translation]

Hon. Michel Côté (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, perhaps I may point out to the Hon. Member that the Government has always been concerned about increasing investment in Canada.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, since we introduced the Investment Canada legislation, we have had some tangible results, and I can inform the Hon. Member that today, investment in Canada has increased 17 per cent.

Mr. Speaker, this is one more instance of the wisdom of a decision made by the Government in January 1985, and it demonstrates our concern for sustained economic renewal.