

country and continuing setbacks, a specific case of hardship has reached one city in Canada, Corner Brook, Newfoundland, which is almost completely dependent on the industry and where a partial close-down of production will tend to cripple the economy and affect some 30,000 citizens.

I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Grand Falls-White Bay Labrador (Mr. Peddle):

That the government take the initiative and hold immediate discussions with the Canada pulp and paper associations and the labour movement, to establish proposals to rehabilitate the industry and to provide measures to avoid further lay-offs and shutdowns.

Mr. Speaker: This motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent. The motion cannot be put.

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PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1970—REFERENCE TO STANDING COMMITTEE

On the order: Government Notices of Motions:

September 21, 1971—The President of the Privy Council:

That the Public Accounts for the year ended 31 March 1970, tabled in the House January 12, 1971, and the Auditor General's report thereon, tabled in the House June 4, 1971, be referred to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to section 2 of Standing Order 21, this notice of motion is transferred to and ordered for consideration under government orders at the next sitting of the House.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

PROVISION OF PROGRAMS TO COPE WITH UNEMPLOYMENT THIS WINTER—PRESENTATION AT MEETING WITH PROVINCES

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister which is based on the statement made in the annual review of the Economic Council of Canada that "the revival of such programs as municipal winter works and winter housing should be considered in formulating a more integrated and selective strategy for manpower policy". In view of this statement and in view of the urgent need for job programs for the coming winter, would the Prime Minister indicate if it is the government's intention to initiate action on such programs immediately for implementation this winter?

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Inquiries of the Ministry

• (2:20 p.m.)

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, if the Leader of the Opposition is referring to the report which I believe was made public just today, I must confess I have not read it yet and therefore am not in a position to comment on it.

Mr. Stanfield: I had assumed that, like myself, the Prime Minister would give urgent attention to the report of the Economic Council of Canada—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: A speed reader.

Mr. Speaker: Order please. Would the hon. Leader of the Opposition kindly ask the question.

Mr. Stanfield: With regard to the meeting with the provinces about which the Prime Minister has told us on a couple of occasions, in all seriousness and with all due courtesy and respect I should like to ask whether he has assured the premiers whom he has invited to any such conference that the government will in fact present specific programs in connection with jobs for this winter, as has been requested by many of the premiers?

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[Translation]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN SPEAKER'S GALLERY OF MAURICE SCHUMANN, FOREIGN MINISTER OF FRANCE

Mr. Speaker: Order. Before the right hon. Prime Minister replies to the question which has just been put by the Leader of the Opposition, may I announce to hon. members of this House the presence in the Speaker's gallery of a distinguished visitor, His Excellency Mr. Maurice Schumann, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic.

Mr. Minister, we appreciate your visit, which can but consolidate the traditional friendship between France and Canada. We, members of the House, are particularly gratified by your presence among us, as a token of your attachment and that of your government to parliamentary institutions.

On behalf of all hon. members, Mr. Minister, I welcome you most cordially.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

PROVISION OF PROGRAMS TO COPE WITH UNEMPLOYMENT THIS WINTER—PRESENTATION AT MEETING WITH PROVINCES

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that I answered this very question yesterday and said to the leader of the New Democratic Party that I had written to all provincial premiers, as of July, to suggest several dates when we could meet and discuss economic, tax and other matters.

I have repeated publicly that the federal government intends to discuss, then, mainly the problem of unemploy-