

Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, it is my intention to ensure that while the committee of the whole is sitting and discussing the tax bill no meetings will be scheduled for standing or special committees. That is the general policy that I hope will be followed. There may have to be an emergency committee meeting, but that is not planned. I hope committees will meet in the mornings and that we will have the rest of the day for the bill.

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ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY**EFFECT OF POSSIBLE INCREASE IN TOLLS ON FARMERS AND OTHERS—GOVERNMENT DECISION**

Mr. R. R. Southam (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I had a question for the Minister of Transport but in his absence I should like to direct it to the Prime Minister. In view of the widespread concern in the farming community as well as in other sectors of the economy as to whether St. Lawrence Seaway tolls will be raised, and in view of the several inquiries put to the government in this regard before the summer recess, is the Prime Minister now in a position to advise the House just what the government's decision is in this most important matter and, if not, when can we expect a decision?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Transport is in Vancouver on government business but he will be in the House for the question period tomorrow.

An hon. Member: Is he organizing a fishing conference?

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LABOUR CONDITIONS**UNEMPLOYMENT—FULL EMPLOYMENT POLICY SIMILAR TO THAT OF UNITED STATES**

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Can he say whether the government now has a full employment policy and indicate whether this policy is active in terms of Canadian potential and not reactive in terms of recent American behaviour, and whether there will be any announcement of the—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It seems to me that the hon. member is asking or restating a question that was asked during the question period earlier today.

Mr. Lundrigan: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, if we are to raise questions from day to day on an issue which is of such immense importance to the Canadian people, with half a million unemployed, then certainly we have to continue asking these questions if we are to obtain a reaction from the Prime Minister who refuses to answer them.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that it is hardly orderly procedure to ask the same question too often at least during the same question period. I am suggesting to the hon. member that the question was asked earlier in the question period.

Mr. Stanfield: Try it tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps we should go on and give another hon. member the opportunity to ask a question.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, I am asking my question on the basis of domestically created unemployment. On that basis may I repeat the question. Has the government a full employment policy similar to that which the United States is obviously working toward today, and will that type of policy be announced clearly to the Canadian people at an early date so that we do not get completely sidetracked by the chronic and serious problems created by the recent United States action?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for his suggestion.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I must ask the hon. member, on behalf of his colleagues in the House, for co-operation. Hon. members have been trying to ask questions from the beginning of the question period. When we are nearing the end of the question period I think we should try to limit supplementaries. At the same time I appreciate the importance of the matter raised by the hon. member. If he will ask his supplementary we will then go to the next question.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, I recognize that you must rule regarding supplementaries, but what kind of government do we have or what kind of opposition do we have if we cannot raise further supplementaries?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Lundrigan: May I put my point of order?

Mr. Speaker: I ask the hon. member to resume his seat. The hon. member for Regina East.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, on a question of privilege—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member rises on a question of privilege.

• (2:50 p.m.)

Mr. Lundrigan: Yesterday I sat in my place as a member of the House of Commons for half an hour listening to the hon. member for Winnipeg somewhere or other speaking on a question of privilege directed to one unique point. I am now seeking to rise as a member with the responsibility of presenting the problems of half a million Canadians who are today unemployed. If I cannot be allowed additional supplementaries in an attempt to elicit a sane, sensible response from the Prime Minister—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!