

*Inquiries of the Ministry***HOUSING****DEFERRAL OF MORTGAGE PAYMENTS FOR KAMLOOPS RESIDENTS AFFECTED BY FLOOD**

Mr. Len Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. Can the minister advise the House whether he has yet received confirmation from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation that the 60 home owners who were victims of a serious flood in Kamloops last weekend have had their payments deferred for three months? I believe the minister made representations to this effect yesterday.

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have asked the officials of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to arrange with the approved lenders for the deferral of such payments for three months. I understand they are having a meeting with the approved lenders on Monday in Vancouver to arrange this. I expect the approved lenders will comply with the request being made of them in order to assist the home owners in Kamloops who have been flooded.

REQUEST THAT CMHC LOANS NOT BE MADE IN AREAS SUBJECT TO FLOODING

Mr. Ian Watson (Laprairie): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. It has to do with flooding not only in British Columbia but also in Quebec at Laval and Chateauguay. Will the minister request his officials to examine all areas that were flooded in order that in the future no CMHC loans or NHA guarantees will be allowed on homes in areas subject to flooding?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is not a question. The hon. member is making a representation and doing so in a very clear way.

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POWER**PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF NUCLEAR PLANT ON STODDART ISLAND, NOVA SCOTIA, BY PRIVATE COMPANY—GOVERNMENT POLICY**

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester North): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of negotiations presently under way between a private group of individuals and the government of Nova Scotia with regard to the possible location of a nuclear power station on Stoddart Island, Nova Scotia, is the government in a position to indicate whether it has a policy with regard to the construction and operation of nuclear power stations by private concerns anywhere in Canada?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Yes, Mr. Speaker. There are two government agencies that would be involved here, the Atomic Energy Control Board and the National Energy Board. The Atomic Energy Control Board is responsible for the safety of reactors. I understand that the proposed reactor

[Mr. Pepin.]

would be a light water reactor of the American type which at the moment has not been authorized for use in Canada. It would either require a change in those criteria or a refusal of the application. At the moment, neither of the two federal agencies has received an application with regard to the proposal the hon. member has mentioned.

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[Translation]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**INQUIRY RESPECTING INCREASE IN CLAIMANTS SINCE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW ACT**

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Has the application of the new Unemployment Insurance Act increased the number of recipients?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member is asking for statistics. In my opinion, such a question should be put on the order paper. However, if the hon. member prefers, it could be discussed at the time of adjournment.

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[English]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Acting Prime Minister. Accepting the fact of poor attendance on both sides of the House in this fading Parliament, may I ask the Acting Prime Minister whether, after yesterday, the Prime Minister has gone to see the Governor General, is in Washington looking into the oil spill, or is his absence just due to Friday politics?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Sharp: Where is Bob?

Mr. Bell: We know where he is.

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VETERANS AFFAIRS**PENSIONS—REQUEST FOR REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE**

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the hon. member for Algoma in his capacity as chairman of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs. In view of the answer given a few minutes ago by the Minister of Veterans Affairs to the hon. member for Norfolk-Halifax (Mr. Knowles), will the hon. member consult with the government House leader concerning the possibility of getting a term of reference from the House so that the standing committee can discuss the question of revising the basic rates of veterans pensions?

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I will be pleased to do this. As soon as a reference is made by