

Could he say whether he anticipates any new developments in the Quebec-Ottawa case concerning government priority in the field of cable television?

**Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications):** Mr. Speaker, I can only repeat to the hon. member that we do anticipate developments in the matter of communications with all provinces and that we shall meet at a federal-provincial conference on November 27 and 28.

**Mr. Matte:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Communications.

Could he advise the House whether he has considered the possibility of granting Quebec a sort of special status in this area?

**Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga):** No, Mr. Speaker. Such a possibility will not be examined during the forthcoming conference. Instead, we shall try to agree on national and provincial objectives in the area of communications and see how these could be conciliated.

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[English]

#### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

##### INTENTION OF GOVERNMENT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW RATES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS—POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL COMPUTER INSTALLATIONS

**Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. When will he be announcing the new rates for employer and employee contributions to the Unemployment Insurance Commission and, if the minister does intend to implement the new rates, will he consider referring them to the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration first?

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, I will be making that part of my comprehensive statement to which I referred earlier.

**Mr. Jelinek:** Obviously, the minister is not prepared to give any answers today. I will ask an easier supplementary question. In view of the high initial cost of UIC computer installations, will the minister confirm whether UIC is planning any additional expenses on these computer installations?

**Mr. Andras:** Mr. Speaker, the main investment in computer installation is now complete. We are constantly refining and trying to improve our operations, as I think hon. members wish us to do. As far as any further major investment, I have no information to give to the hon. member at this time.

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#### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

##### PROPOSED WORLD FOOD BANK—CANADIAN POSITION

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Secretary of State for

#### Oral Questions

**External Affairs.** In view of the latest economic reports to the effect that the rich nations are getting richer and the poor poorer, and that poverty has become a way of life in the past few years to a degree not anticipated, what is the present position of the government of Canada with reference to a world food bank? What contributions, if any, has Canada tentatively agreed to make to such a world organization?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the right hon. gentleman may have noticed, or perhaps he has not, but when I was speaking to the United Nations General Assembly, I supported the latest initiative of the food and agriculture organization for a study of the idea of having food reserves, a world food bank or something of that nature. I also supported the initiative of Dr. Kissinger, the Secretary of State of the United States, who had proposed a world food conference. Therefore, I think I am on the same side as the right hon. member in believing this will be one of the most important problems facing the world in the future.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** The minister, of course realizes, does he not, that under my administration I brought that subject before the NATO organization in 1957, and before the United Nations in 1960, and at that time the Liberal Party opposed it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I am not sure whether that is a question.

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[Translation]

#### ENERGY

##### LOCATION OF FOURTH HEAVY WATER PLANT—CONSIDERATION OF QUEBEC SITE

**Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

Has the government made a final decision concerning the forthcoming construction of a fourth heavy water plant in Canada and, if so, is the province of Quebec still being considered as the possible site for building this plant?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the decision in this respect is not yet final. We are still considering a number of possible sites in various provinces. I can say, however, that the site proposed in the province of Quebec is also being considered.

[English]

##### LOCATION OF FOURTH HEAVY WATER PLANT—CONSIDERATION OF SITE IN WESTERN CANADA

**Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris):** May I ask the Prime Minister if western Canada is being considered as a possible site for this heavy water plant?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. There are at least two sites in western Canada which are being considered.