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commission sets the salary rates in effect. I must mention that these rates are based on the market situation. However, they are an essential element of the program and the agreements with foreign countries, which stipulate that workers are not to receive a salary lower than that of other workers, and more so, not lower that the average salary given for that particular harvest. To make sure that information on salary rates is as precise as possible, the commission is this year conducting a general survey in Ontario, so as to find out the real salary received by workers in 1977.

This survey is organized under the federal labour-intensive program and will make it possible to set up a detailed list of actual salaries paid according to the crop and the kind of employment. The survey is directed to both employers and workers; the latter being disseminated throughout Canada, the survey will be completed a little later than expected. The final results will be known in early April, that is well before most applications from offshore workers will be considered. Of course, the employees who already know what are minimum wages in effect in Ontario should have a good idea of the average wages generally paid last year for each crop.

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): Order, please. I regret to interrupt the parliamentary secretary but his allotted time has expired.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS—ISRAEL—POSSIBLE CHANGE OF POSITION ON RIGHT TO OCCUPIED TERRITORY

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, it is now some time since I asked the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Jamieson) why Canada found it necessary to vote with the United States, Israel, El Salvador and no one else against a motion condemning continued Israeli occupation of the territory of other sovereign states. The minister's reply, while lucid, was something less than precise. He referred to the English text as referring to "occupied territory", as distinct, I presume, from "territories". Doubtless he had in mind UN resolution No. 242, so often referred to by Canadian secretaries of state for external affairs as the very cornerstone and inner shrine of Canadian policy. But rarely does this minister, nor did his predecessors, refer to an integral part of resolution 242 which begins by emphasizing "the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war".

It is all very well for the minister to refer to his growing irritation about "rather senseless UN resolutions." I think he must contain his impatience and remember that the UN is a reflection of a vast and variegated world community and that not all members are great powers or western states. Yet the principle of one-state-one-vote must prevail else we are faithless to the great declarations of equality and brotherhood on which the UN charter is based.

What is much more sad than any interpretations of resolution 242 or evaluation of the UN charter is the grave realization that what I discussed so many weeks ago has done such a [Mr. Dupont.] major disservice to efforts to bring about peace in the tragically troubled Middle East. The dramatic, genuine and indeed heroic peace mission of President Sadat may have foundered. It did not fail because Mr. Sadat lost heart. It did not collapse because he forgot the most severely harassed victims of the UN creation of Israel, the Palestinians. It failed long before the regrettable, reprehensible, indeed deplorable destruction of the lives of Israeli bus riders by PLO operatives. The grand design for peace conceived and executed by the President of Egypt foundered on Israeli intransigence respecting the withdrawal from settlements in the Sinai and other areas of land which were never turned over to Israeli sovereignty by the United Nations.

• (2222)

In addition, while President Sadat suffered the slings and arrows of some of his Arab brethren, the government of Israel decided and declared that they would establish new settlements, under their control in the Sinai and other areas which were never placed under their jurisdiction.

In the last few days upon the Ossa of sorrow has been placed the Pelion of anguish. The sovereign state of Lebanon has been invaded and hundreds, possibly thousands, of innocent women and children put to the sword or forced to flee in fear and trembling in the face of the mighty Israeli arsenal of naked power.

I hope Canadian peacekeepers will be able to be helpful. I hope that Israel, so often heedless of the resolutions of the UN which created it, will this time listen to the world community. One notes that there is an apparent willingness on the part of the Canadian government to contribute to a peace-keeping force. I fully agree with the concerns expressed by my hon. friend from Victoria (Mr. McKinnon) and re-echoed by the minister this afternoon. But I think it quite unfair and presumptuous to suggest, before the fact, that only those in the north might be non co-operative with the peace force.

There is something familiar in the minister's statement when he says that we have not been asked to make a contribution. In the post-1973 situation it sometimes seemed we were preaching for a call which did not come through all that quickly. Possibly the Arab states question our objectivity on the Middle East situation. On the evidence of our actions and utterances I would not be surprised if they made this reading, despite the fact that the Arabs do not always seem too alert in knowing their friends from their enemies.

I close with an appeal for greater objectivity and a deeper commitment to the real victims in the Middle East. I hope Canada will be able to make a tangible contribution to a Middle East peace. I also hope that neither Israel nor the PLO will refuse co-operation with the UN peace force. They will render both themselves and mankind a disservice if they fail to heed the call for compliance.

[Translation]

Mr. Raymond Dupont (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, as indicat-