

The hon. member says that members of my department have resigned. I would welcome the names of those members of my department. I am aware of one case where there has been a resignation of an individual.

I can tell the hon. member that the advice received by the Medical Devices Branch within my department is that the Meme breast implant is believed to be at least as safe as any other implant. Statistics show that the failure rate among the Meme breast implants is considerably lower than among every other silicone breast implant.

If we were to follow the hon. member's suggestion, we would be saying that we would withdraw a device with a lower failure rate than the other ones, and would require women in the interim to have implants which have a higher failure rate. She would be the first one to complain if we were to do that.

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Mr. Joseph Volpe (Eglinton—Lawrence): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Employment and Immigration. When she commissioned the Canadian Labour Market Productivity Centre Task Forces on Labour Force Development Strategy some months ago, she said she would heed the recommendations of those task forces.

When the task forces submitted their report a couple of days ago, they emphasized in no less than four separate recommendations that the unemployment insurance account be used exclusively for income maintenance and income supplement.

In light of that, will the minister now reconsider her own recommendation that \$800 million be used from the unemployment insurance account for training purposes, and will she accept instead her own committee's recommendation?

• (1450)

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, there are a number of recommendations in the report that was received this week. I think that it is going to be very helpful to us in setting up our training strategy which we plan to implement as soon as we get Bill C-21.

Oral Questions

As I explained to some of the people who represented the Labour Management Productivity Centre, I am prepared to take into account all of their recommendations. Clearly this is a difficult one for us, given our present financial situation, as I do not have other resources at the moment for the kinds of training and the other recommendations that they are making.

I do want to thank them for the very hard work that they have done, because I believe it is going to be very helpful to us as soon as we get Bill C-21.

Mr. Joseph Volpe (Eglinton—Lawrence): Mr. Speaker, those same task forces take into consideration the financial dilemma that the minister finds herself in and they propose two alternatives for funding for training. In fact, what they suggest for her consideration are tax credit incentives for employers who engage in training, or that a payroll tax on all employers with a rebate for those who engage in training be implemented.

Which of these two will the minister consider as an alternative to taking funds that her task force says should be used exclusively—and I stress exclusively—for income supplement and income maintenance?

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, we will of course be looking at all of the recommendations and I will have a response to the report in due course.

I am very interested in the hon. member's question, because I would like to know what the position of the Liberal party is on this issue. It is very interesting, Mr. Speaker, that the member for LaSalle who is running for the leadership of this party said that he thought the Senate should drop their opposition to this bill. He said: "I think what they should do is drop their opposition to the unemployment bill".

Is that the hon. member's position, the Liberal party's position, the leader's position, the Senate's position? Who has a position in the Liberal party?

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CHEMICAL WEAPONS

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg Transcona): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Acting Prime Minister, whoever that might be. It has to do with the heightened concern around the world about the spread and the use of chemical weapons as a result of the Iraqi threat against