Oral Questions

[Translation]

REQUEST FOR GOVERNMENT ASSURANCE MR. ZOUBRIS WILL NOT HAVE TO VISIT DEPARTMENT AGAIN

Mrs. Lucie Pépin (Outremont): Mr. Speaker, I simply want to say that the Minister is very much aware of the situation because he himself spoke to this man.

I would also like the Minister—after he has made yet another inquiry this afternoon—to assure us that Mr. Zoubris will not have to go to the Department of Employment and Immigration at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning and pay \$125 to have his passport and Canadian citizenship papers examined.

Hon. Gerry Weiner (Minister of State (Immigration)): Mr. Speaker, I am aware of this situation, and I assured the Hon. Member that the officials of my Department will give her a more detailed report, but it is not proper to raise a specific case here in the House of Commons.

[English]

CANADIAN JOBS STRATEGY

REQUEST FOR INCREASED FUNDING

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton—Melville): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Employment and Immigration. I have here a copy of a study that has been done of the Canadian Jobs Strategy by the Ontario Government on behalf of all 10 provincial Governments. Does the Minister agree with the key recommendation in the study, which criticizes the Canadian Jobs Strategy, that funding should be increased from \$1.7 billion to \$2.5 billion? This would bring funding up to the 1984 index level when the Minister took over. Does the Minister agree with that? Will he end the cut-backs and increase the money to train the unemployed of Canada, particularly for those regions that need it?

[Translation]

Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I can only suggest that my colleague ought to be proud of the Canadian Jobs Strategy results, knowing as we do that 80,000 Canadians are involved every day. The Government of Ontario may very well urge us to increase our budgets to unrealistic levels, but I think the Jobs Strategy program has proven to be a success and the results attest to that. Many Canadians are in a position to find that out for themselves every day. Again I repeat that the Government can be proud of the results—705,000 jobs in two years—something which you will spend the rest of your life hoping to achieve.

[English]

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

POLICY CONCERNING MARRIED PERSONNEL

Mr. John Nunziata (York South—Weston): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. It concerns the new R.C.M.P. policy with regard to married couples in the Force. As the Minister knows, the new policy is regressive, inequitable, and discriminatory to families.

Is the Solicitor General prepared to instruct the Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to scrap the new policy and adopt a policy that would be far more humane and fair in the circumstances?

Hon. James Kelleher (Solicitor General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, I understand that the Hon. Member raised this question during my absence with the President of the Treasury Board. The President of the Treasury Board was good enough to bring this matter to my attention. I have already had a preliminary discussion with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and have asked the R.C.M.P. for a full briefing on the matter. At that time I will be looking at the policy in depth.

Mr. Speaker: The last question for the Question Period will go the Hon. Member for York East.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

POSSIBLE EFFECT OF CLOSURE OF PORTS TO NUCLEAR POWERED SHIPS

Mr. Alan Redway (York East): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Defence. Some time ago New Zealand closed its ports to ships that were powered by nuclear fuel. This past weekend the New Democratic Party committed itself to a similar policy. Would the Minister advise the House what effect such a policy would have on Canada and, in particular, upon its membership in NATO and NORAD?

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, such a policy would require us to turn back ships from allied nations. The effect on New Zealand of its policy has been to damage its defence relationships severely with other friendly powers around the world. It is a policy that would be very damaging to Canada's national defence interests.

Mr. Broadbent: Do you believe that?