

Mrs. Ursula Appolloni (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Defence):

- (a) (i) 480
- (ii) 116.
- (b) (i) 550
- (ii) 112.

[English]

Madam Speaker: The questions enumerated by the parliamentary secretary have been answered. Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

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MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Mr. D. M. Collette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, would you be so kind as to call notice of motion for the production of papers No. 5?

AUTOMOTIVE AGREEMENT

Motion No. 5—**Mr. Herbert:**

That an humble address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this House copies of all orders in council since 1965 relative to the remission of duties under the Automotive Agreement.

[Translation]

Mr. Gérald Laniel (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Madam Speaker, the documents requested by the hon. member for Vaudreuil (Mr. Herbert) are very voluminous and would require a lot of time and a lot of public funds to prepare. So I would ask the hon. member for Vaudreuil to withdraw his motion.

[English]

Mr. Hal Herbert (Vaudreuil): Madam Speaker, I would ask that the motion be transferred for debate.

Madam Speaker: Transferred for debate.

Mr. Collette: I ask, Madam Speaker, that the other notices of motions for the production of papers be allowed to stand.

Madam Speaker: Shall the remaining notices of motions for the production of papers be allowed to stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Unemployment Insurance Act GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT, 1971

MEASURE TO AMEND

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Employment and Immigration) moved that Bill C-3, to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration.

He said: Madam Speaker, in introducing Bill C-3, first I should like to point out that this bill is not an ambition to change in any substantial way the major direction of the unemployment insurance program. Basically it is designed to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act in two very simple ways to respond to some very immediate problems. The first provision is to extend the variable entrance requirements for a further 18 months, and the second provision is to alter the funding arrangements under the Unemployment Insurance Act.

I recognize that the question of unemployment insurance is one that has occupied a great deal of time in the House over the years. If we took a measurement, I suspect we would find that there is no area of public policy which has occupied more time in *Hansard* than that particular issue.

● (1520)

I think it is important that we do consider the relevancy and the importance of unemployment insurance as it applies to the changing employment conditions in this country as they will take place in the 1980s. As we have indicated previously in this House, we do intend to make a full review of the unemployment insurance program, a review which was started under both my predecessors, the hon. Mr. Cullen and the Hon. R. Atkey. We hope to complete that process by this fall so a paper can be presented to Parliament for consideration.

I would suggest to hon. members that they will have more than a full opportunity to discuss the many concerns they will have relating to the application of the Unemployment Insurance Act, and to present their cases, when the white paper, the green paper, the orange paper, whichever colour it happens to be, is presented to Parliament.

What we have in this bill does not represent major changes in policy, but very necessary and expedient alterations in order to maintain the continuity of the present act. Perhaps the one thing that is most important to members, and the one that we should spend some time on, retracing the history of it, is the proposal to refinance the benefit portions of the unemployment insurance program, as contained in Bill C-3. It is important to take a few minutes to look at the evolution of the financing of this act in order to understand the context in which these present amendments are being introduced.

Before the 1971 changes to the Unemployment Insurance Act the program was financed by means of equal contributions