

*Oral Questions***THE ECONOMY****CLOSURE OF LUMBER MILL IN CHEMAINUS, B.C.—PROTECTION FOR JOBS**

**Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. Last week MacMillan Bloedel Limited announced the closure of its lumber mill in Chemainus, British Columbia, with the loss of over 600 jobs. The company has made several fortunes out of the Chemainus mill but has allowed it to become run down and inefficient. Will the minister investigate statements by the company that a promised new mill will not be built because all of MacMillan Bloedel's available capital is being invested in a new pulp mill in Alabama? Will he take immediate action to stop this irresponsible investment of Canadian funds outside Canada, and protect Canadian jobs?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, I will take note of the hon. member's representations.

● (1450)

**INVESTMENT OF CAPITAL OUTSIDE CANADA**

**Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands):** Madam Speaker, I hope that the minister does more than take note of the representation. I hope he will take some action. The millworkers at Chemainus are only the latest group of victims of the government's do-nothing policy that allows the export of jobs by companies which take profits and run. When will the minister establish guidelines for multinational investment policies to ensure that companies which make their money in Canada will invest their profits in Canada and create jobs for Canadians?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, the same reply has to be made to the hon. member's question. I understand his concern, but basically he is asking that the Government of Canada intervene to the point where it directs a company as to whether it makes an investment in Canada or in the United States. I believe that kind of policy would have implications far beyond the particular case to which the hon. member refers.

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**EMERGENCY MEASURES****ORDER IN COUNCIL PROVISIONS AFFECTING MANPOWER**

**Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock-North Delta):** Madam Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Employment and Immigration. The order in council passed almost a year ago which establishes emergency planning orders empowers the minister of employment, "to establish a population register for the effective management of manpower and arrange any required international manpower transaction". Those are peacetime emergency provisions. What kind of

peacetime emergencies has the government planned for that it would need to empower the minister to transfer Canadians from Canada under international obligations to other countries?

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Employment and Immigration):** Madam Speaker, I do not think that is the implication of that statement. We are simply pointing out that any time there is a major catastrophe that would affect this country, there are obviously international implications in terms of the movement of workers and movement of people across borders. It is simply our intention to ensure that that movement is orderly and proper and takes into account the effects of any of those hypothetical catastrophes on the population. As we have said in this House many times, these are precautionary measures that hopefully will never have to be used but must be in place in case there are some major disasters.

**Mr. Friesen:** I wonder whether "hypothetical catastrophe" is a parliamentary term.

**EFFECT ON UNIONS**

**Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock-North Delta):** Madam Speaker, my supplementary question is to the Minister of Labour. That same order empowers the Minister of Employment and Immigration in collaboration with the Minister of Labour to regulate and control conditions of work, rates of remuneration, and occupational safety. I would like to ask the minister about the integrity of unions and union contracts which exist if, in so-called peacetime emergencies, the Minister of Labour and the Minister of Employment and Immigration are empowered to disregard union contracts.

**Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Minister of Labour):** Madam Speaker, the question implies that there is the possibility of an emergency situation. Until that emergency situation appears on the horizon, the integrity of collective agreements will prevail.

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**CANADA POST****HIRING OF SUMMER PART-TIME LETTER CARRIERS**

**Mr. Bud Bradley (Haldimand-Norfolk):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the minister responsible for the Canada Post Corporation. The minister will recall that on March 1 of this year I questioned him about the directive from Canada Post Corporation pertaining to the hiring of part-time letter carriers for the summer. It, in essence, said they must be hired from families of members of the letter carriers union. At that time the minister stated:

I would be pleased to discuss the matter with the president of Canada Post Corporation and obtain an answer for the hon. member.

Is the minister now prepared to give us his answer?